Chickasaw Times

Official publication of the Chickasaw Nation

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Stamp designed by master artist Mike Larsen

Oklahoma Centennial stamp features Chickasaw art

Gov. Bill Anoatubby displays the official Oklahoma Centennial stamps he purchased from Tishomingo Postmaster Kalynne Johnson.

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby purchased the first Oklahoma Centennial postage stamp sold from the U.S. Post Office in Tishomingo.

Gov. Anoatubby purchased several first day cancellations of the stamp at 10 a.m., Jan. 11 from postmaster Kalynne Johnson.

Chickasaw artist Mike Larsen designed the stamp, which features a sunrise over the Cimarron River.

"To be in the historic Chickasaw Capitol celebrating the Oklahoma Centennial by purchasing a stamp designed by a Chickasaw artist is a very moving experience," said Gov. Anoatubby. "Chickasaw citizens celebrated the 150th anniversary of the original Chickasaw Constitution a few months ago not far from here.

"Today, Chickasaw citizens who are also citizens of the state of Oklahoma take great pride in celebrating this event as well."

During the Sept. 9, 2006 unveiling of the stamp in Oklahoma City, Mr. Larsen said the image on the stamp was inspired by the view from the porch of his home where he and his wife, Martha, drink coffee and watch the sunrise.

"When I consider the fact that there are going to be millions of little-bitty Mike Larsen paintings, and over the image that I painted are the words 'Oklahoma, Oh what a beautiful morning,' I couldn't be more proud," Mr. Larsen said.

Gov. Anoatubby was also present for that unveiling celebration.

"It is a source of great pride that the image of a sunrise painted by a Chickasaw master artist was chosen to commemorate the Oklahoma Centennial," said Gov. Anoatubby during the celebration. "The selection of this image by this artist is symbolic of the dawning of a new and even brighter century of progress for all people in the state."

Tishomingo activities included a flag raising ceremony by members of the local American Legion post. Members of the Johnston County Historical Society in period dress were present. Students from Tishomingo schools sang "Oklahoma!"

District 22 State Representative Paul Roan, Tishomingo Mayor Rex Morrell, Murray State College President Dr. William Pennington and city council members were also present for the event.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Centennial Creative Writing Contest open to young Chickasaws

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities has announced an exciting opportunity for Chickasaw youth to explore their culture and history while competing for cash prizes and awards.

The 2007 Chickasaw Centennial Creative Writing Contest is open to Chickasaw students in grades six through 12, and young Chickasaw adults through age 24. Promoting the topic, "100 Years of Chickasaw History," young writers may submit from one to a total of five entries in the categories of poetry (64 lines or less), fictional short story (1,000 to 2,000 words) or historical narrative or essay (1,000 words or less).

Deadline for entries is Friday, March 2, 2007.

As an advocate for the arts, the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities encourages self-expression through all mediums. Creative writing promotes opportunities for language arts development for Chickasaws and others served.

"Individuals connect with the world around them as they explore cultures and history," said Lona Barrick, administrator for the division. "Writing about what we've learned or how we feel allows us to identify those connections and to express our understanding of them."

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby emphasized the importance of developing language arts skills in young Chickasaws.

See **Centennial *Writing Contest,*** *page 17*

2007's first baby

Mother Victoria Johnson and father Benjamin Jackson, of Ada, Okla., hold their newborn daughter, Rez Maria Jackson, the first baby born in 2007 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital. Rez, born January 1 about 4 a.m., weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz., and measured 19 inches at birth. She joins two brothers, Damion, 7, and Titan, 3, and a sister, Athena, 4. The parents were presented a car seat, diapers, formula and many other helpful items from Carl Albert officials as a gift for being the first birth of the new year.

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January 2007 Resolutions

General Resolution Number 24-015

Authorization for an Escrow Agreement Relating to and the Defeasance

of Chickasaw Nation Certificates of Participation

(Indian Health Services, Regional Supply Service Center)

Explanation: The Indian Health Service (IHS) currently leases a warehouse in Ada owned by the Chickasaw Nation. Certificates of Participation were issued by the tribe to build the warehouse. The original amount of the Certificates was $3,015,000 of which $1,750,000 are currently outstanding. Due to a change in its operating plan, IHS wishes to cancel its lease with the Nation as of March 31, 2007. The lease has seven and one half years remaining. The warehouse sets next to the hospital complex and has many uses, the value of which exceeds the amount necessary to defease the bonds, also referred to herein as the Certificates. The facility has approximately 32,400 square feet of space. Due to the fact there was no call provision set forth in the original bond indenture, we have no ability to prepay the bonds and or Certificates; therefore, it is necessary to deposit with the trustee bank an amount which along with the interest earned by such funds will pay the principal, interest and trustees fees as they come due. This defeasance will allow the Nation to release IHS from its lease agreement without default. The exact amount of the funds required is unknown until the investments are purchased, as the purchase price is a function of the interest rate which changes daily. It is in the best interest of the Chickasaw Nation to proceed with bond defeasance and terminate the lease agreement with IHS.

Requested by: Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation

Presented by: Holly Easterling, Committee Chair Finance Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Scott Colbert

General Resolution Number 24-016

Approval of Application for Funding – U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

(FY 2007 Tribal Youth Program)

Explanation: This resolution approves the application for federal funding to provide culturally-sensitive prevention services and alcohol and substance abuse programs to those youth of the Chickasaw Nation in need. The proposed project will identify risk factors for delinquency and then identify youth at risk of delinquency and provide them with prevention programs. The proposed project will also provide drug and alcohol screening and testing to youth at the request of parents and/or guardians. Referrals will be offered to those families in need. Alcohol and drug abuse prevention education will also be provided.

Requested by: Bill Anoatubby, Governor

Presented by: Dean McManus, Committee Chair Human Resources Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Steve Woods, Scott Colbert

American Indian Cultural Center construction begins

OKLAHOMA CITY - Construction began recently on the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum (AICCM) in Oklahoma City.

"It is a great moment in time as we begin to see this dream become reality," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby, who serves as chairman of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority. "This new facility will play a very important role in educating the public about the important place Indian tribes have in the history and development of Oklahoma."

Drilling has begun for concrete piers which will help for the foundation of the first buildings to be constructed on the site.

Within months, more than 200 concrete piers are scheduled to be anchored into bedrock.

Each of the piers will be 24 to 54 inches in diameter and will extend four to five feet below ground level.

"The drilling and anchoring of the first foundation piers is a significant milestone for the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum," Centennial Builders project director John Jamison said. "It is an anchor post for the new Gallery Building, and brings a part of the vision to reality."

The vision is for the AICCM to have four components.

Construction workers begin the process of anchoring concrete piers to bedrock on the site of the American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City.

The cultural center and museum will be dedicated to telling the story of Indian tribes in the state.

There will also be an extensive park and trail system on the site.

A number of commercial businesses which complement the mission of the cultural center are also in the planning stages. A tourism information center is also in the planning stages.

More than $46 million has been raised for the $150 million project.

The project has been a cooperative effort including the state of Oklahoma, the federal government, Oklahoma City, tribes and individuals.

A capital campaign to enable individuals and businesses to take part in the development of the cultural center will be introduced in the coming months, according to Shoshana Wasserman, Program Planning Consultant, AICCM.

"As the AICCM becomes physically embedded into the earth at the geographic center of this continent, we are also giving birth to an institution that will offer understanding and a unique cultural experience that no other state can share. As we create and develop the institution, programming initiatives are already taking root in the community," said Wasserman.

In 2007, the cultural center will tour its first gallery exhibition, "Art from Indian Territory: the state of being American Indian" to five different locations throughout the state.

For more information on construction progress and development of the institution and outreach programs, log onto www.aiccm.org or call (405) 815-5153.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop

1005 Chamber Loop, Ada, OK

(580) 436-1007

SW jewelry, dream catchers, caps and lots of Chickasaw items. Shop the Ada Senior Citizens Gift Shop for all your gift giving items!

Bill Anoatubby
Governor

Jefferson Keel
Lt. Governor

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the *Chickasaw Times*. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Many Americans unaware of Indian sovereignty, self-governance

By BILL ANOATUBBY
Governor
Chickasaw Nation

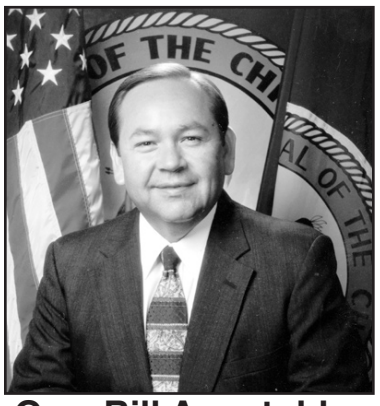
Many of our fellow Americans remain unaware of the historic concepts of "tribal sovereignty" and "tribal self-government." For the Chickasaw Nation, and the hundreds of federally-recognized tribes in America, these elements of our history, our present and our future are the bedrock of our existence.

Simply stated, the Chickasaw Nation is a sovereign entity because history dictates that it is so. Additionally, the U.S. Constitution and subsequent U.S. Supreme Court and other federal cases have confirmed it.

The Chickasaw Nation, like so many other Native tribes, was prospering in what is now the United States when Europeans first arrived. Each tribal nation possessed its own government, culture and language. Some tribes were nomadic, some agricultural, some warlike. But all operated as societies that were complex and specialized.

It is fact that our tribe was highly developed at the time of contact. Chickasaw Nation society had doctors, artisans, religious and political leaders, mathematicians, architects and so much more. The fibers that ran through Chickasaw society were interconnected through our tribal government. The explosion of non-Indian population in America, particularly following the American Revolutionary War, would place tremendous pressure on our tribal reality.

We are all aware of the massive injustices and pogroms forced on Indian people as the thirst for land and resources became acute in this country. The realities in this new country reduced total Indian population



Gov. Bill Anoatubby

by approximately two-thirds by 1900.

The official position of the U.S. government following the American Revolution was to regard Indian tribes as having equal status as foreign nations. The tribes were awakening to the roiling changes that were engulfing the country, and many, including the Chickasaw Nation, insisted on protecting their sovereignty. At first, the new federal government attempted to interact with the tribes with some genuine goodwill regarding the tribes' independent histories. However, as America became militarily stronger, particularly following the War of 1812, that concern lessened greatly, which led to the Indian Removal Act of 1830 and the sorrow unleashed by Andrew Jackson.

Despite the virtually insurmountable challenges, the Chickasaw Nation survived. Chickasaw people inherently understood the importance of preserving the fundamental structures of our society and our government. Even through the Removal period, the people were determined to survive, and even flourish, in new lands.

Despite the many patently illegal and uncaring policies allowed by the federal government, we have never relinquished our tribal sovereignty and right of self-governance. Those rights, recognized by the U.S. Constitution and supported by case law, are the bedrock of our history. We know those rights can, and will, come under attack by some members of Congress, and others. As a consequence, we continually work together, as Chickasaws, to build up our tribe and our people. And, we remind our fellow Americans that our status is unique - a status that respects our history and celebrates the diversity that makes our country strong.

At its heart, the source of Chickasaw Nation power is you. A tribe's strength is its people.

And on that count, I believe all Chickasaws can feel very, very strong. Our history is one of traditions, strength and caring for each other. Chickasaw people have always believed in the future, and our future now looks as bright as ever.

Applications being accepted for 2007 tribal Aviation and Space Academy

Retired U.S. Navy Commander, NASA astronaut and Chickasaw citizen John Herrington takes time to sign autographs with CNASA participants after sharing about his career and his trip to the International Space Station.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2007 Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Academy. Ninth through 12th grade students will attend June 18 – 21 and 5th through 8th grade students attend June 25 – 28 in Ada, Oklahoma.

Students gain valuable hands-on experience and knowledge about aviation and aerospace history, technology and careers. Activities include a flight in a single-engine airplane, visiting the Tulsa Air and Space Museum, building and flying model airplanes, visits from experts in the field and classroom instruction.

More information about CNASA and how to apply can be found by contacting Chickasaw Nation Career Technology and Training Development Manager Jennifer Brown at (580) 421-7711 or jennifer.brown@chickasaw.net. The application deadline is May 1, 2007. Space is limited. Early enrollment is appreciated.

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

Native American Law Day open to Indian students seeking legal career

TULSA - The Oklahoma Law Schools are sponsoring Native American Pre Law Day on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the University of Tulsa.

The event will be at the University of Tulsa College of Law in John Rogers Hall, 3120 East 4th Place in Tulsa from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The University of Tulsa College of Law, University of Oklahoma College of Law, Oklahoma City University School of Law and the Oklahoma Indian Bar Association will introduce college students and high school seniors to the study of law. The event is geared towards encouraging more Indian students to consider a law career.

Throughout the day, there are opportunities to attend panel discussion addressing different opportunities in the law field.

Chickasaw Nation attorney Lisa Impson will be participating in the first panel titled, "Why Law?"

The event will conclude with a Native Justice Powwow from 3-10 p.m. featuring a variety of dances.

Space is limited so applicants must pre-register. A travel scholarship is available for students who are not within easy driving distance of Tulsa.

For more information and applications call 918-631-2406.

Contributed by Kandis Murdock, tribal media relations.

Indian Learners conference set for March; Rep. Billy to deliver keynote

EDMOND, Okla. - The University of Central Oklahoma's Oklahoma Center for Arts Education is hosting the third annual "Connecting to American Indian Learners" Conference. The keynote speaker will be Chickasaw citizen and Oklahoma State Representative Lisa J. Billy.

The conference will take place at Nigh University Center on the campus of the University of Central Oklahoma on Saturday, March 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The one-day conference addresses the issues of American Indian students and their relationships with faculty, curriculum content and school. Participants will learn key ways of integrating American Indian culture into their lesson plans, classrooms and schools.

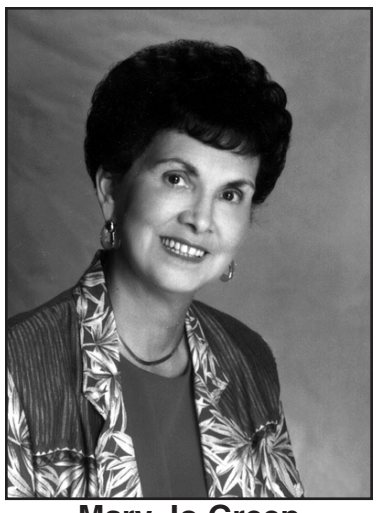
Registration includes meals, a session with keynote speaker Lisa Billy, three breakout sessions, "make and take" materials, door prizes and performance presentations by the Chickasaw, Choctaw and Muscogee (Creek) Nations.

Several other Chickasaws will serve as guest presenters including Trina Jones, Laura Morrison, Darrell Walker and Lorie Robins.

For more information about the event, contact Ines Burnham at (405) 974-3784 or Laura Morrison at (580) 332-1092.

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

New prescription center provides fast, efficient service



Mary Jo Green
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! After having beautiful weather for the holidays, Winter came in full force with rain, ice and sleet. We were iced-in for a couple of days and still have ice and sleet in places. We are bracing for another ice/sleet/snow storm expected to hit tomorrow.

We haven't had the ribbon cutting for the new prescription center yet, even though it is up and operating. I have not yet toured the building, but know that it is nice. We take great pride in all new facilities we build. I called in a prescription on a Monday, went to the drive-through window on Wednesday, gave my name and chart number and received my prescription in less than 5 minutes. What an improvement! We are so proud to offer this wonderful facility to our people as it cuts the waiting time in picking up prescription refills. We hope some day soon to add same-day new prescriptions.

Plans are moving forward for our new state-of-the-art hospital. We can see work being done on the utilities in preparation of construction. Administrator Bill Lance met with the Health Care Committee and gave an update on the Health System.

Administrator Bill Lance submits the following statistics: In the month of December, 2006, there were 206 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 12,831. December Emergency Room visits were 953. December saw 227 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,324 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 3,917 patients in December. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,872 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 1,888. The Durant Clinic saw 2,202 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,581 in December.

The calendar year ending on December 31, 2006, showed a total of 337,472 total ambulatory visits for the Health System. This is much more than was anticipated and it shows the dedication of our Health care staff. We are very blessed to be able to provide quality health care for so many Chickasaws and other Native Americans.

I would love to hear from you! Please contact me through my email address mary.green@chickasaw.net or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. My articles are also located on the web site. Until next month, thank you.

Tribe's Bank2 making major strides in Indian home loans

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

One of my goals this year is to give you a better idea of some of the activities that we are involved with as Legislators.

Several of us represent you by serving on boards, and I have that privilege myself. I have served on the Bank2 board for more than five years. The growth we have seen at Bank2 has far surpassed any of the expectations we had when we began five years ago.

What Bank2 fulfills for us in the Chickasaw Nation is diversification of our businesses. I would encourage you to visit our web site at www.bank2.biz. You can also call us at 1-877-409-2265.

We have recently joined the world of e-banking. Our internet banking service is user friendly, and we are hoping that more Chickasaws from around the United States will want to bank with us. Even one of your accounts would be a benefit to the bank. If you decide to do that, please tell them that I referred you, and ask to speak to Fran Smith when you call to set up your service. Fran is a great representative of Bank2.

You may wonder how we came up with the name for Bank2. That is often asked. During one of our early strategic planning sessions, we spent probably an hour coming up with names. We had giant post-it notes stuck all over the walls with name ideas. Nothing ever seemed to fit, so we decided to table the selection and come back to it at a later time. Our CEO, Mr. Ross Hill, was struck by the name one hot summer day. His thought, I am sure, is that the Chickasaw will have a bank that is Twice the Bank, but Bank2 was chosen as the name.

Those names are not trade marked, and around the country, we are making a name for the Chickasaw Nation. In 2006, we were the number one producer of HUD 184 home loans for Native Americans in our five state area. We are listed in the 100 Native American businesses in the U.S. by Diversity Business.com. In fact, we are the fastest growing Native American bank.

As you can see, I am very proud of Bank2. I also serve with a wonderful board. The picture that is included with this article was taken more than one year ago. We are a board that was selected by our share holder, the Chickasaw Nation, and confirmed through the Legislature. Each board member serves with the goal and desire to better serve the Chickasaw Nation. We speak of you frequently and try to come up with ideas to better serve the Chickasaw Nation.

One example is our student scholarships. We offer scholarships to outstanding Chickasaw scholars in the hopes that one day we will have more of our people serving in this very exciting and challenging industry.

I encourage you to visit our web site. When you come to Oklahoma, come and visit us at our I-40 and Meridian site or our 15th and Morgan road branch in Oklahoma City. We are moving our mortgage department to the branch. As always, we are serving you, the great unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation.

I look forward to hearing from you. The safest way to reach me is through my e-mail at judy.parker@chickasaw.net. If I am going to lose a communication, it is usually through phone messages. I apologize for that and ask you to e-mail me if I have failed to respond to you. Communication with you is very important to me. If there is a topic you would like to hear about, please let me know.

Your Pontotoc District Tribal Legislator

Judy Goforth Parker, PhD, RN

Committee Reports

Education Committee
Jan. 8, 2007
Present: Wanda Blackwood Scott, Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, David Woerz, Scott Colbert

Finance Committee
Jan. 8, 2007
Present: Linda Briggs, Holly Easterling, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Scott Colbert
Absent: Steve Woods

Health Committee
Jan. 8, 2007
Present: Mary Jo Green, Beth Alexander, Dean McManus, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Scott Colbert
Absent: Tim Colbert, Donna Hartman

Human Resources Committee
Jan. 8, 2007
Present: Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, David Woerz, Scott Colbert
Absent: Donna Hartman

Legislative Committee
Jan. 8, 2007
Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, David Woerz, Scott Colbert
Absent: Tim Colbert, Donna Hartman, Steve Woods

Tribal representative to be in Chickasha February 20

A Chickasaw Nation representative will be in Chickasha on February 20 to answer questions about tribal programs.

For more information, or to apply for tribal elderly energy assistance, tribal emergency utility assistance, energy assistance, community health representatives, or other programs, visit Bettie Black at Oklahoma Workforce, 301 S. 2nd Street from 3 to 5 p.m.

A tribal representative will be available for questions at Oklahoma Workforce the third Monday of each month.

For more information, call (405) 527-6667.

*February's visit will take place on Tuesday due to holiday closings.

Special connections result when talking with Chickasaw elders

Linda Briggs
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Hi Everybody!

Except for an occasional red candle I've spotted around the house, Christmas decorations are finally put away and the New Year is off and running!

New Year wishes from special friends cause me to feel so happy and thankful that I have such beautiful people in my life. A special wish for a good year ahead came from a very special lady, Faye Glenn, and my visit with her was a gift unto itself. She is so sharp, so bright and shiny, and so knowledgeable about so many thngs. She is one of our 90+ years in age elders with a mind as contemporary as today.

How wonderful to retain and keep learning all one's life. She reads every word of the *Chickasaw Times* every month and has very astute observations about what she reads! I really enjoy our conversations and look forward to them. Life brings its gifts from all directions!

In the reassignment of committees on the Legislature I am now chair of the Tribal Historical Preservation committee. This is of course extraordinarily interesting so I am very much enjoying the experience. Always I love learning about who we are and where we've been. As a very young child I could "rattle" off the names of the five civilized tribes before I knew what "the five civilized tribes" were, and as a matter of fact, I'm not positive but I think I knew those names before I could spell my own middle name! (It's Maurine!!). My great-grandmother Keel always said, "We live in a white man's world and we must learn to deal as equals" (Meaning that we must be adept and fluent in the English language) and she allowed our Chickasaw language to only be spoken at the Sunday dinner table. She also said that we must "learn about and honor and respect our heritage," thus the use of Chickasaw on Sunday.

As the first born in my generation I was taken to Sunday dinner at my great-grandmother's house so that I would better learn our Chickasaw language. Children were not allowed to speak at the dinner table so I was much better at understanding our Chickasaw language than I was at speaking it but as we walked up the hill home at the close of those days I had a laundry list of words for which I wanted explanations. In the memory book of my mind those days will forever be special. Both my great-grandmother Keel and my grandmother Liddell (both full blood Chickasaws) were incredibly strong, intelligent women and as long as there is a "me" they, along with my brilliant mother, will inspire me to try harder to do better – at whatever is the charge at hand.

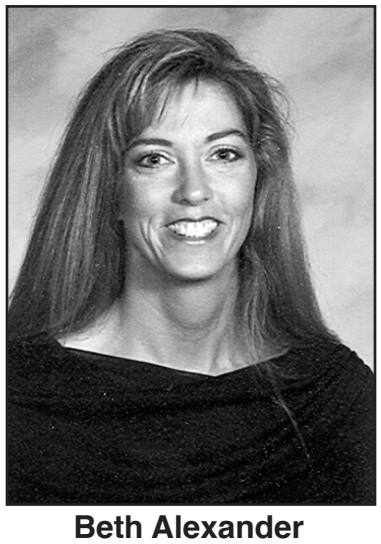
My grandmother Liddell attended Burney Institute at Lebanon and thinking about that gave me a very special feeling as I stood in that old building not long ago. We are developing plans for its restoration and that will be a wonderful project to see happen. I have very much enjoyed visiting vwith one of our citizens from Lebanon, Mr. Wendyl Johnson, who is a virtual treasure trove of information about Burney Institute. Our Multi-Media Division is arranging to video interviews with Mr. Johnson. They will be so great to have. He grew up playing in and around the building and knows details of endless, countless occurrences there as well as the names of many, many people who have been involved in its history.

My excitement over my "new assignment" has in no way diminished my interest in all the other happenings of the Tribe. My background is in business and we have so much going on in that area I feel like a kid turned loose in the candy store. But probably I should save it for another writing, as I do not want to impugn the good nature of the editors of *the Times*!

For all of you, Great and Wonderful Wishes for this brand New Year! Stay safe and healthy – and may God Bless All of You!

Linda Briggs

Burney Institute now back in the hands of the Chickasaw Nation



Beth Alexander
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Happy New Year! This year I actually stayed awake to see 2007 in with other Chickasaw citizens at Freedom Fellowship at Filmore, Okla. We had a wonderful time of food, singing, sharing testimonies of how the Lord was moving in our lives, and praying for the needs of others. It was not a home crowd only! There were people from various places. The over all consensuses – God loves the native people and cares for each and every one of us.

Just recently, the Chickasaw Nation lost one of its dear elders, Mrs. Hattie D. Harjo. The funeral has at the Pennington Indian Church, Regan, Okla., and singers from the Boiling Springs Methodist Church sang many Choctaw hymns. Her son, Tim Harjo, is employed by the tribe as the Cultural Preservation Coordinator for the Chickasaw Nation. He is highly involved in the dance troupe and is quite adept at making many cultural items. Chances are you have seen Tim if you have seen the dance troupe. We will miss you, Mrs. Hattie Harjo, but your legacy lives on in your children and many grandchildren.

A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to see the Burney Institute located just outside of Lebanon, Okla. As you have probably read in previous editions of the Chickasaw Times, we (the Chickasaw Nation) were able to purchase this property. As I was viewing this historic Chickasaw school/orphanage I could visualize children running about and teachers watching over their charges. I could almost hear the voices and laughter. The building is still standing and does have a grand appearance even in its present condition. There is a historical marker located approximately 1/4 mile north of the grounds. Seeing Burney Institute and knowing that it is now back in the hands of the Chickasaw Nation is liken to having your children come home after a lengthy absence.

This past month I visited some community councils. It was good to see the folks at the Enos Chickasaw Community council. According to reports, they had a wonderful Christmas, Happy New Year and are at it again to plan this year's music festival for their big fundraiser. A noticeable different on my trip, was seeing the framework of their new Chickasaw Community building. Things are happening.

I was able to make a run up to the community council in Oklahoma City. They meet the first Tuesday of each month. This too is a group of high energy, enthusiastic Chickasaw citizens. Their big news for the New Year is the location of their new meeting place near the Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City. Their first community council meeting in the new location is tentatively set for March. Be sure to call before you go. I would hate for you to land in the wrong location and miss out on all the fun. Call Betty Smith (405) 348-7459 or check out their website for details.

www.okc-chickasawcouncil.org

I was on my way home one evening and saw the lights on at the Achille Senior Citizen's nutrition site. I stopped in and what a good thing. They were having an Indian Taco sale and also homemade desserts. That was a treat. The money raised through taco sales and other fundraisers goes toward field trips. Go Seniors! Homemade food from our seniors is always a treat. At the Achille site they have been known to have home made jelly and jam too! Mr. and Mrs. O.C. Beshires were nominated to represent the Achille site as king and queen for the Senior Citizen's Valentines Day Banquet. I am so proud of our seniors in the Achille area for getting involved in the tribal events and programs. If you are 60 years of age of older, consider becoming involved with our senior citizen's programs. This just might be what you are looking for. Lunch is served Monday thru Friday and there are always activities to get involved with.

Please call or write if you have any questions. It is my desire to be of assistance for the Chickasaw people. Yakoke!

Beth Alexander
Panola District Legislator
(580) 282-3409
bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Citizens At Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

Tutoring, ACT prep classes designed to help students achieve

Wanda Blackwood Tippit Scott
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

We all understand how vitally important a good education is these days.

It used to be, many years ago, that a young man or woman could enter the world of work at an early age and learn all he needed to know "on the job." While well-designed apprenticeships are still great ways to learn a trade, in our modern world there is really no substitute for a good, well-rounded education.

Our tribal Department of Education is committed to helping as many Chickasaws as possible improve their lives through quality education programs. Currently, the department is developing a tutoring program for students in the Chickasaw Nation. We know excellent tutoring can bring students up-to-grade level in a short amount of time, if the student is willing to invest the time and energy. I will keep you updated on this important new initiative.

In Oklahoma, as in many Southern and Midwestern states, the ACT test is required for students entering college. The Department of Education has ACT preparation classes ongoing for rising high school seniors. Additionally, a number of our tribal Landscape Department workers are now attending ACT prep classes. Good luck to all!

For our high-achieving students, Department of Education administrator Lisa John reports that Harvard and Yale University are offering scholarships to Native American students. These exceptional institutions have a wonderful history of reaching out to Indian students, and for having a sensitivity to traditional Indian culture.

The department will send out letters to students announcing the scholarships.

Best wishes to all our students for a great semester!

Headlands program offers health careers study, enrichment for Indian students

NORMAN, Okla. - The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center is now accepting applications for its 2007 Headlands Indian Health Careers Program. The program is set for June 9 through July 21, 2007, on the OU Norman campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions are encouraged to apply for this intense six -week enrichment program offering mini-block courses in calculus, chemistry, physics and biology. These courses are designed to increase the students' knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science coursework in pre-health programs.

Students again will gain experience in the laboratory, strengthen their communication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentations at the OU Health Sciences Center colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program. Applications for the Headlands program can be found at www.headlands.ouhsc.edu or call (405) 271- 3090 ext. 46885. Application deadline is March 15, 2007.

The Headlands program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American EXPORT Center with funding from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

IHS scholarship deadline is Feb. 28

Indian Health Service (IHS) Scholarship Program applications for academic year 2007-2008 are now being accepted.

The program is available to all American Indian students pursuing health related degrees. Applications must be developed and submitted in accordance with the instructions given in the application Information Instruction Booklet.

Complete applications, including all required documentation, must be received in the appropriate IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator's Office **by close of business Feb. 28, 2007**.

Area Scholarship coordinators can be found by calling the IHS Scholarship Program at (301) 443-6197 or by visiting the jobs and scholarships section at www.ihs.gov <http://www.ihs.gov/> .

For more information about this program, contact Indian Health Services Scholarship Program or Renee Hogue and Deborah Hook of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Education at (580) 421-7711.

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

2006-2007 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District
Seat #

1. Holly Easterling
   HCR 64 Box 241
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 399-4002
   hollye@cableone.net
2. Judy Parker
   P.O. Box 2628
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 332-3840
3. Katie Case
   1030 Cedar Road
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 421-9390
4. Dean McManus
   5980 CR 3430
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 759-3407
5. Mary Jo Green
   2000 E. 14th Place
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 332-2394

Pickens District
Seat #

1. David Woerz
   P.O. Box 669
   Ardmore, OK 73402
   (580) 504-0160
2. Donna Hartman
   HC 66, Box 122
   Overbrook, OK 73448
   (580) 226-4385
3. Linda Briggs
   400 NW 4th
   Marietta, OK 73448
   (580) 276-3493
4. Wanda Blackwood Scott
   Route 1, Box 42
   Elmore City, OK 73433
   (580) 788-4730
   scottdes@telepath.com

Tishomingo District
Seat #

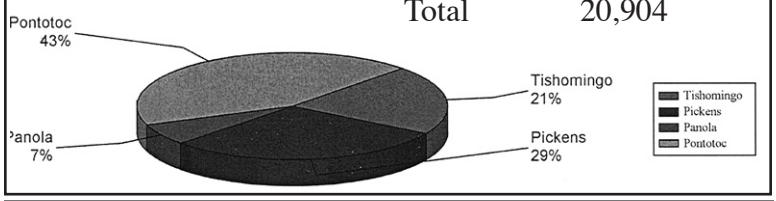
1. D. Scott Colbert
   P.O. Box 773
   Sulphur, OK 73086
   (580) 622-3960
2. Tim Colbert
   P.O. Box 773
   Sulphur, OK 73086
   (580) 993-2818
3. Steven Woods
   Route 1, Box 430A
   Sulphur, OK 73086
   (580) 622-3523

Panola District
Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
   Box 246
   Achille, OK 74720
   (580) 283-3409

Count of Voters by District

Tishomingo	4,393	Panola	1,369
Pickens	6,116	Pontotoc	9,026
		Total	20,904



Open house hosted by Colbert first Wednesdays at Tishomingo Clinic

D. Scott Colbert
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Legislator Scott Colbert will have an open office for Legislative business at the Tishomingo Clinic between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month. Please make appointments at (580) 622-3218. You may also call on the first Wednesday of every month at (580) 421-3425.

Feel free to contact Colbert if you have any questions.

Chickasaw artist finds scrap material tops traditional art supplies

When you think of rusty old, metal pipes and rods, men and cars may come to mind. But not art.

For Chickasaw Twila Goodwin, aged pieces of metal collected from her father's scrap yard are used as a canvas for her creations.

The Ardmore native makes sculptures out of different types of scrap metal. Goodwin said each sculpture represents a different part of her.

"I only make things that I love," she said.

Her themes vary from western, influenced by her childhood on a ranch, to modern and abstract sculptures.

"I started out making candle holders," Ms. Goodwin said. "Now I have an Indian warhorse in the middle of my front yard."

Her yard serves as her art museum. She said onlookers drive by her home to see her art and neighbors are awaiting the next piece she will unveil.

"When we see your shop door open, we can't wait to see what will come out," proclaim the neighbors.

Inspired by her grandmother, she started out as a traditional painter, but later traded in her paintbrush for a welder's torch.

"I was a bad painter, then I started to weld and thought 'this is me,'" Ms. Goodwin said.

And now she has added horseshoes to her repertoire.

Her most recent and most challenging project is a five-foot sculpture of a buffalo made out of 600-700 horseshoes. Her fascination with buffaloes came from their importance to Native Americans.

"I've always been fascinated with buffalo," she said. "I thought they were amazing, because that's what Indians used to eat and make teepees. My dad once bought a herd of buffalo. And they are beautiful animals," she said.

The project took almost eight months to complete.

The artist said her passion for welding and art are driven by the same force, her love for creating and designing new things.

"I can make anything as long as I have an imagination," she said.

Chickasaw artist Twila Goodwin displays her adult buffalo and recently complete baby buffalo made of welded horseshoes.

Although she has been an artist for almost 20 years, she said her work still gets sweeter with time.

"Each piece is a little better than the last one," she said.

Contributed by Kandis Murdock, tribal media relations.

Financial statements shows strengthening condition, growing assets

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, travel plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the election commission, maintenance and operations of tribal property, *Chickasaw Times* and governor's and lt. governor's offices. Expenditure for education includes education scholarship as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Depreciation has not been computed on the Fixed Assets of the governmental funds for the current year. Depreciation will be computed after year end in connection with the audit.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending December 31, 2006

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations totaled $18.2 million year-to-date. Expenditures for the month were $3.4 million and $8.6 year-to-date. There has been a total, beginning in fiscal year 2005, of $82.5 million transferred from the businesses that were reserved for capital projects.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes for December totaled $56 million and $156 million year-to-date. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $19 million for the month and $47 million year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Government for capital projects and tribal program operations the net income was $15 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At December 31, 2006, the tribal government funds had $63 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $10.2 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $116 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of December 31, 2006, tribe operations, excluding federal program funding, had assets totaling $648 million with $137 million in payables resulting in net assets of $509 million compared to $502 million at the end of fiscal year 2006 or an increase of $7 million for the first three months of the fiscal year.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Three Months Ended December 31, 2006

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	1,405,633	156,578,803	157,984,436
Transfers from businesses to tribal government		18,200,000	(18,200,000)	-
Total funds available		19,605,633	138,378,803	157,984,436
Expenditures				
General government		1,618,557		1,618,557
Legislature		293,193		293,193
Judiciary		121,878		121,878
Education		854,571		854,571
Heritage Preservation		572,170		572,170
Health		1,823,244		1,823,244
Youth and Family Services		1,230,953		1,230,953
Nutrition Programs		521,178		521,178
Regulatory		678,455		678,455
Assistance Programs		970,297		970,297
Transfer to Loan Program		-		-
Gaming expense			80,904,057	80,904,057
Other businesses' expense			41,626,065	41,626,065
Total expenditures		8,684,496	122,530,122	131,214,618
Increase in net assets		10,921,137	15,848,680	26,769,818
Beginning net assets		213,049,217	270,158,290	483,207,507
Ending net assets	$	223,970,354	286,006,970	509,977,324

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2006

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	$	62,847,217	116,058,204	178,905,421
Receivables		1,153,321	19,750,528	20,903,849
Inventory			5,114,034	5,114,034
Prepaid expenses			6,313,172	6,313,172
Other Assets			13,798,670	13,798,670
Fixed assets		160,742,536	261,995,244	422,737,781
Less payables		(772,720)	(137,022,883)	(137,795,603)
Net Assets	$	223,970,354	286,006,970	509,977,324

Deadline is March 16

Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame nominations now being accepted

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 class of the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame.

Nominations must be received at the Chickasaw Nation Headquarters by the end of business March 16, 2007.

Nominations of living or deceased individuals will be accepted for consideration.

Nominees must have distinguished themselves in their business, profession, craft, or vocation, thereby bringing honor to the Chickasaw Nation, and/or have made outstanding contributions to the Chickasaw Nation or society in general.

Inductees must be a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation or be eligible to become a citizen of the Nation.

Elected officials of the Chickasaw Nation are not eligible for induction into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame while holding office.

Inductees must commit to being present for the banquet and induction ceremonies, which are scheduled August 10, 2007 at Riverwind Casino.

A nomination form is available on the Chickasaw Nation Website.

http://www.chickasaw.net/docs/HallOfFameNoms_07.pdf

For more information contact Amanda Cobb at (580) 436-7259.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Nomination Form
CHICKASAW NATION HALL OF FAME
For 2007 Nominees

Eligibility Requirements

The Chickasaw Nation accepts nominations of both living and deceased individuals who meet the eligibility requirements outlined below to be considered for induction into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame.

To be eligible to receive this high honor, the nominee must have distinguished themselves in their business, profession, craft, or vocation, thereby bringing honor to the Chickasaw Nation, and/or have made outstanding contributions to the Chickasaw Nation or society in general. Inductees must be a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation or be eligible to become a citizen of the Nation.

Individuals selected for induction into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame must commit to being present for the induction ceremony or they can not be inducted that year. Elected officials of the Chickasaw Nation are ineligible for induction into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame while holding office.

Deadline for 2007 Nominations

Nominations must be received by March 16, 2007 for consideration in 2007.

Name of Person Being Nominated (Include Maiden Name, if Applicable)

_____

Contact Information for Nominee

Mailing address: _____

_____

_____

City State Zip Code

Telephone number(s): _____

Name and contact Information of Person submitting Nomination

Name _____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip Code

Telephone Number(s) _____

Seconding Letters

Seconding Letters are not encouraged unless they provide additional relevant information. No more than two seconding letters should be submitted.

Submitting Nominations

Nominations must be sent to the following address:

Hall of Fame Selection Committee
the Chickasaw Nation
P. O. Box 1548
Ada, Oklahoma 74821

Information to be Submitted with Nomination

Please use the space below to provide a concise statement as to why this nominee should be inducted in the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame.

In addition, please attach additional information providing basic biographical information on the nominee and detailing relevant past and present activities, accomplishments, awards, and/or special honors that the nominee has received. Biographical sketches, resumes, vitas, newspaper or magazine articles also may be submitted to support the nomination.

Student art shows in March

The Chickasaw Nation After School Arts Programs (ASAP) will open its doors to the public for the "Issoba Chikasha Lowa" Student Art Shows in March.

The exhibits will display artwork created by students who have taken part in ASAP this school year. Shows are planned in all three program locations including:

Purcell Area Office
1603 W. Green Avenue
Friday, March 2, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Ardmore Area Office
39 N. Washington
Friday, March 9, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Ada Community Center
Corner of Arlington & Mississippi
Friday, March 30, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The Ada show will include artwork from all three program areas. Art from each student will be offered for sale. Art sale proceeds will benefit the After School Arts Program.

This year's projects educated the students not only in art techniques and process, but also on marketing and the sale of artwork as a possible future career choice.

ASAP is a program of the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities' Arts in Education Department. For more information, contact Laura Morrison at (580) 332-1092.

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

Senior Valentine party set

The Chickasaw Nation Division on Aging will host its annual Senior Valentine Party February 14 at the Sulphur Expo Center from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Snacks will be served and a live band will be playing for dancing and entertainment.

The Senior King and Queen Court will also be in attendance with representatives from each of the eleven senior sites.

Everyone 60 years old and older is invited to attend and take part in the festivities.

For more information, contact the division on aging at (580) 795-9790.

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

Indian boarding school photos and information requested

A celebration of the survival of Chickasaw language and culture through the boarding school era is scheduled for May, 2007.

Event organizers are encouraging Chickasaws of all ages to participate in this event.

Family members are asked to share the name, school information and years of attendance for any Chickasaw citizens who have attended or are attending tribal or BIA boarding schools.

Organizers are also asking family members to share memories of boarding school experiences as well as any photos of Chickasaws at tribal or BIA boarding schools from all time periods.

Photos will be scanned and returned to the owner.

This information will help in creating a list of Chickasaw boarding school students, a photo gallery of their experiences and a video documentary including interviews with boarding school students of all ages

Please send any relevant information and photos to:

Lori Hamilton
124 East 14th Street
Ada, OK 74820

For more information, call Lori Hamilton or Chenae Casady at (580) 421-7711.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Boarding School Student Information
(Please submit a separate form for each student.)

Name of student: _____
Name of School: _____
Location of School: _____

Dates attended: _____to_____
Number of photos submitted (if any): _____

Contact information – Photos returned to this address:

Name: _____
Street address: _____
Apartment number: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Location of each photo:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Names of individuals in each photo (left to right):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

(Please list information for additional photos on a separate page.)
For more information contact Lori Hamilton or Chenae Casady at (580) 421-7711.

Tribal winter baseball camp a 'hit' with young Chickasaw ballplayers

The 2006 Chickasaw Nation Winter Baseball Camp was just a little more special this year. Wet fields and cold winds prevented campers from playing outdoors, but the weather didn't dampen the holiday spirit.

The tribal Division of Youth and Family celebrated the season of giving by providing each of the 135 campers with an early Christmas gift, a brand new Mizuno baseball glove.

"This helps the less fortunate with the proper equipment that it takes to play this wonderful game," said Chris Alford, camp coordinator.

The camp, hosted at Ardmore (OK) High School December 21-22, is in its fourth year and has become a premiere regional camp. More than 267 players applied for the camp.

The camp consists of first-rate instruction by a collection of professional and college athletes, as well as college and high school coaches. The instructor group included former San Francisco Giants player and current OU assistant coach Damon Minor, and Pittsburg Pirate scout Rip Garcia.

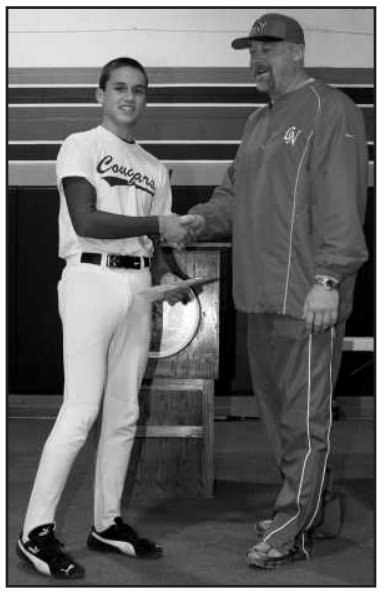
College coaches and players from Seminole (OK) State College and Southwestern Oklahoma State University, as well as Oklahoma high school coaches from Ardmore, Latta, Harrah and Asher, provided instruction.

"Our camps are so important because we not only focus on improving particular skills, but also building the child's confidence and work ethic," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "These characteristics are essential in all fields."

Campers received pointers on all aspects of the game from batting to playing outfield. Parent Teri Spain said she was impressed with the camp and expects her nine-year-old son to increase his skills and knowledge of the game.

"They bring in a lot of people to improve their skills and teach them the correct techniques," said Mrs. Spain, of Purcell, Okla.

Brandon Marris, a sophomore from Dallas, Texas, was selected the camp's Most Valuable Player. The 16-year-old ballplayer has attended the camp all four years. He said the camp helped him improve his game every year.



Brandon Marris, of Dallas, Texas accepts his award as Most Valuable Player at the winter baseball camp from Barry Needham.

Ethan Jackson, of Ada, Okla., earns the title of Most Improved player at the winter baseball camp. Ethan accepts his award from Barry Needham.

"It helped me reinforce the fundamentals and they showed me stuff to work on on my own," said Brandon, who hopes to play in the majors someday.

Ethan Jackson, of Ada, Okla., was the Most Improved Player this year. Six-year-old Ethan has been playing baseball since he was three. He said this year he learned about the timing of the ball.

Both the MVP and Most Improved Player received a $250 gift certificate to a sporting goods store.

The camp is offered at no charge to Chickasaw citizens. All expenses are covered from revenues generated by tribal businesses.

To be eligible for the camp, applicants must be 8-18 years of age and have a CDIB card or tribal membership or be a child of a Chickasaw Nation Employee. Applicants must also be involved in a baseball program at school or through a league.

Contributed by Kandis Murdock, tribal media relations.

New Ataloa Memorial Scholarship now available to Chickasaw undergrads

The Chickasaw Foundation is accepting applications for the Ataloa Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship is available to full-time, undergraduate Chickasaw students at a two- or four-year college or university who are pursuing a degree in music or a music-related field.

The scholarship is $500 and will be awarded for the spring semester 2007. The application must be delivered or postmarked by March 2, 2007.

Applications are available online at www.chickasawfoundation.org . Applicants may also contact the staff at (580) 421-9030 or by e-mail at ChickasawFoundation@chickasaw.net for applications.

Mary "Ataloa" Stone McClendon (1895-1967) was a nationally renowned vocalist, educator and performer specializing in fund-raising and advocacy for Native American education and cultural understanding.

Contributed by Kandis Murdock, tribal media relations.

Tribal military database set to be updated

The Chickasaw Nation is updating its military database.

The list includes active duty personnel and those stationed away from home.

If you know of a Chickasaw to be added to the list, or an address to be updated, contact Rebecca Chandler in the public affairs office, (580) 310-6451 or email Rebecca.chandler@chickasaw.net

Daisy Hawley Blackbird

Daisy Hawley Blackbird celebrated her 104th birthday Jan. 18, 2006.

She was born in Indian Territory in 1903 before Oklahoma became a state.

Her parents were Elizabeth (Lizzie) and Arthur E. Hawley.

She was born and raised on a farm about three miles south of Tupelo, Okla. She had six sisters and three brothers, all deceased except her younger sister, Wanda Montgomery.

She completed high school in Tupelo and attended Kansas City University. She taught school for several years. Later she worked at the State Capitol as a payroll clerk for the Supreme Court where she met and married her husband, William H. Blackbird, Supreme Court Judge. They were married 50 years before his death.

She has been awarded several honors, one honoring her 100th birthday from President Bush and another award from Governor Bill Anoatubby for being one of the few original enrollees in the Chickasaw Nation.

Mrs. Blackbird is one-quarter Chickasaw and resides in her home in Oklahoma City. She is very proud of her ancestry in the Chickasaw Nation.

Desiree Nicole Jeffery

Desiree Nicole Jeffery celebrated her second birthday, Dec. 24, 2006. She celebrated with two birthday parties, one with mom, Christa Franko, and grandma, Melissa Arispe at Chuck-E-Cheese, Lewisville, Texas; and the second party she celebrated with the Arispe family at Oakcliff, Texas.

Desiree is a beautiful and healthy little girl and has been a joy to our life!

Happy Birthday Desiree!

Love,

Mom and grandma

Kole Ryan McClain

Kole Ryan McClain celebrated his first birthday in Texas, at his grandma Linda's with his brother Kaleb, mother, father, PaPa, Granny Renfro, his Aunt Melissa, cousin Slade, and Grandpa Jerry.

Zachary Houston Burton will celebrate his 13th birthday Feb. 1, 2007.

He is the son of Chuck and Tracy Burton, and brother of Cameron, all of Choctaw, Okla.

He is the grandson of Ed and Carolyn Peck, Midwest City, Okla., the late Ron Hurt, and Doyle and Joanne Burton, Nicoma Park, Okla.

Zach attends seventh grade at Nicoma Park Junior High School. He takes piano lessons, and plays the trumpet in the school band.

When not in school or with friends, he enjoys being on his computer and reading.

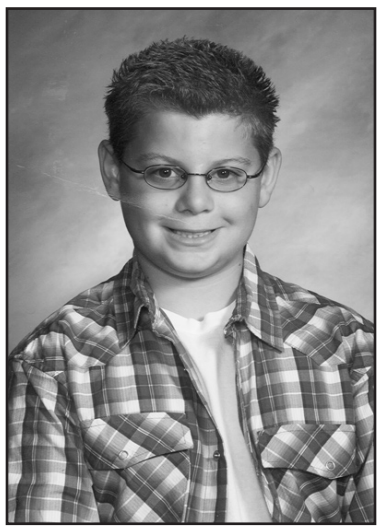
Zach has made all A's and one B on his semester report card. He is a very sensitive and bright young man. He has a bright future ahead of him because of his strongly motivated and caring parents and brother.

He is a descendant of original enrollees, Daisy O'Dean Walker Jones and Tandy Walker.

Happy 13th Birthday Zach!

Love,

From all your family



Zachary Houston Burton

MOCCASIN TRAIL IN YOUR CORNER

By Anona McCullar

Tip of the Month

Weight Loss Tip

Make it a rule to never eat anything while you are standing up. This will keep you from piling on unconscious calories.

The Moccasin Trail Program would like to congratulate the following for achieving over the 1000

mile goal.

Steven Loy, Dale, Jace and Oke-Twsha Roberts.

Congrats!

Births

Abby Grace Herrera

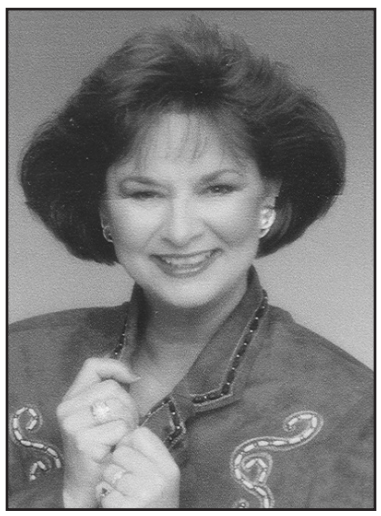
Abby Grace Herrera was born Nov. 10, 2006. She weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz and measured 19 1/2 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Madeline Ward and Rudy Herrera, of Ada, Okla.

She is the granddaughter of Keeva Ward, Ada, Jay Ward, Centrahoma, Okla., and Sanjuana and Francisco Herrera, Allen, Okla.

She is the great-granddaughter of Dorothy Tisdell, the late Jack Gold and Evelyn Guffey, Tupelo, Okla. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Tom and Lora Mae (Polly) Morgan.

Chickasaw author publishes outdoor memoir



Charlene Reams Manning

"Memories of My Earth Home, 40 Meditations on Our Natural World," by Chickasaw author Charlene Reams Manning, has recently been published by Publish America.

The book is a tribute to the author's home state and to nature itself. It is also autobiographical, telling the story of growing up in drought-plagued Texas in the 1950s. The book recalls living right on the Rio Grande River and the author's home nestled among giant native oak trees in San Antonio.

Ms. Manning showcases her various learning encounters with the flora and fauna that thrive in the sometimes inhospitable prairies, hills and fields. She draws on her McLaughlin Chickasaw heritage and tells of her increasing love for God's creation – the beautiful natural world around us. She sprinkles the text with historical highlights, quotes from the scriptures, poems and hymns. All this makes a delightful written potpourri, and interesting and colorful book.

Readers may view the book and reviews on Amazon.com or Barnes&Noble.com or the publisher's site at http://www-publishamerica.com/shopping by searching the author's name or the book title. Or, book may be ordered directly from the author at a discounted price by emailing EarthMemories@aol.com.

Ms. Manning is a true country gal. She loves animals and the outdoors. She now makes her home at Hens Acre Farm in Georgetown, Texas where she and her husband raise chickens, garden and work to live a simpler life, close to the natural world they love. He has two grown sons, and three grandchildren.

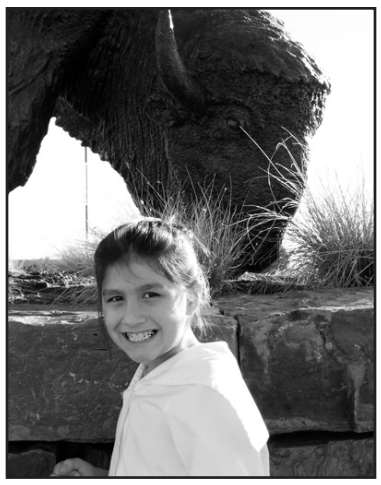
CNI shareholder meeting set

Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc. (CNI) has announced its annual stockholder meeting.

The meeting will be conducted March 7, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at The Ada Elks Lodge. All Chickasaw citizens are invited to attend.

For additional information, contact the CNI corporate office at (580) 272-5000, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

Chickasaw girl selected 'Student of the Month'



Lauren Francis

Eight-year-old Lauren Tree Francis, a Chickasaw, Creek and Choctaw Native American, was recently named "Student of the Month" at West Nichols Hills Elementary in Oklahoma City.

Students are nominated by their teachers. Lauren's third grade teacher, Lisa Brooks, said she nominated Lauren because she showed the most improvement in subjects such as reading, in which she tested at a fifth grade level.

Ms. Brooks said the criteria for student of the month is simply "best overall" and that Lauren was doing well academically, behaviorally and "as a citizen of my class."

Lauren's interests are stomp dancing, stickball, swimming, soccer, reading, art, science and music. She enjoys outdoor activities and her favorite food include spaghetti, shrimp, pho, Native American and Indian cuisine.

Lauren is the daughter of Mark and Kathryn Francis, Oklahoma City, and is the granddaughter of Michael and Emma Frances, Coalgate, Okla., and Delbert and Mabel Hukill, McLoud, Okla.

Clark enters OU College of Pharmacy

T. Ross Clark

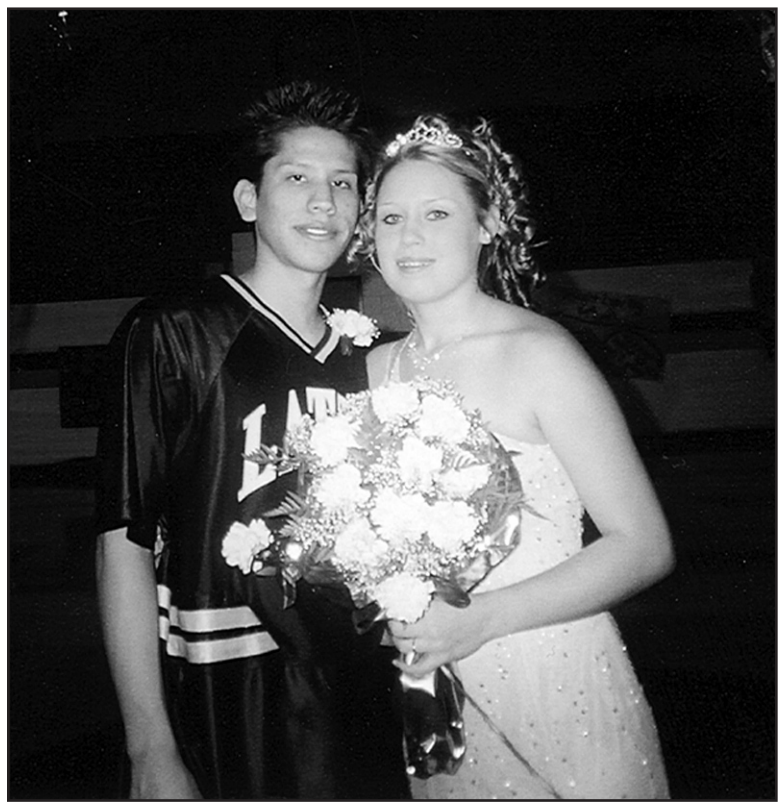
Chickasaw student T. Ross Clark was accepted to the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy program for the class of 2010. He began his classes for his Doctor of Pharmacy this fall and successfully completed this first semester with a 3.25 GPA.

Mr. Clark attended the University of Oklahoma for the past three years and completed his undergraduate work with an accumulated GPA of 3.78.

While attending O.U., Mr. Clark was on the Dean's Honor Roll every semester and was appointed to the Society of Collegian Scholars. He was awarded numerous scholarships from the Chickasaw Nation, which have greatly helped him on his way to being accepted to the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. He was awarded from the Inter-Tribal Council of Five Civilized Tribes the Louie Feflore/Grant Foreman Scholarship for a student in the health related field.

Mr. Clark is the son of Dr.s Chris and Liz Clark and the grandson of Harwood and Ida Suggs and J.C. and Joyce Clark.

Chickasaws are Latta homecoming royalty



Trevan Jimboy and Tosha MacCollister

Chickasaw seniors, Trevan Jimboy and Tosha MacCollister, were crowned 2006-2007 Homecoming King and Queen of Latta High School, Ada, Okla., during the Jan. 9, 2007 basketball post-game ceremony following the game against Atoka (OK) High School.

Trevan is the son of Gwen Burris and the late Gene Jimboy. He is the grandson of Mildred Bohanon Burris and Ella Mae Jimboy.

Tosha is the daughter of Shonda Raiburn and Chris MacCollister. She is the granddaughter of Brenda Sweet and Joanne MacCollister.

Trevan and Tosha were selected for this honor by their fellow teammates on the basketball, softball, baseball and golf teams.

Senior members of their "court" Mark Ernst and Dakota Roebuck are also Chickasaw.

Congratulations Trevan and Tosha!

Carl Albert volunteers donate recliners, microwave to unit

Volunteers at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility recently donated two recliners and a microwave oven to the medical/surgical unit.

"We wanted to do something to provide for the comfort of the patients and visitors," said volunteer coordinator Tom Cooper.

Rhonda Hood, a nurse in the unit, said the microwave and recliners will be appreciated by patients and visitors alike.

"This will be great for the dads who are up for 16 hours while mom is in labor," Hood said.

Unit director Dale Babb said the microwave will help provide warm meals to patients and visitors during hours cafeteria service is not available.

The items were purchased with funds from sales at the Carl Albert gift store.

"We had good sales during Christmas," said Alice Phillips, a volunteer at the facility.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Tom Cooper and Alice Phillips pose with the recliners and microwave donated by Carl Albert volunteers.

Chickasaw named Texas UIL persuasive speaking champion

A Chickasaw high school student has recently been named a state champion in statewide competition.

Laura Driver, a senior from Gregory-Portland High School, Portland, Texas, was named state champion in persuasive speaking in Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) competition. UIL competition encompasses all Texas high school students in a number of disciplines.

Ms. Driver credits two teachers, Charlotte Brown and William Schuetz, for helping her develop her public speaking skills.

Ms. Driver plans to attend Texas State University at San Marcos, and would like to continue on to graduate school.

She is the daugher of David and Anne Driver, of Portland.

Customer Survey winner

Congratulations to the $100 cash winner of our Customer Survey:

Gloria Carney
Ardmore, OK

Please submit your comment on the Customer Service Survey on-line at:

www.chickasaw.net <http://www.chickasaw.net/> and enter for the next quarterly drawing.

Chickasaw Nation employees honored for service

June Wilson, flanked by Gov. Anoatubby and Lt. Gov. Keel, works in the child support services call center as "manager of first impressions. Ms. Wilson was recognized as "Employee of the Year."

A total of 91 employees were recognized for their service to the Chickasaw Nation during ceremonies conducted Jan. 23 at the Community Center gymnasium in Ada.

Stanley Foster, Pat Woods and Lynn Worcester were each honored for 30 years of service.

"Stanley, Pat and Lynn are great examples of dedicated professional employees," said Governor Bill Anoatubby. "But perhaps even more important than that is the fact that they really put their hearts into their work."

June Wilson, who works in the child support services call center as "manager of first impressions," was recognized as "Employee of the Year."

Her nomination form pointed out that while she fields an average of 100 or more calls each day she is always "courteous and eager to assist" the clients.

Ms. Wilson said she was "shocked and proud" to be honored as employee of the year.

She added that "it feels good" to be able to help the clients and the caseworkers in her office.

"Ms. Wilson is a great example of an employee who realizes the impact her job performance has on the people she serves," said Gov. Anoatubby. "While she is an employee of the Chickasaw Nation she is really working to make life better for the children who benefit from our child support services."

Embroidered Pendleton blankets were awarded to Renee Burkhardt, Gary Childers, Diana Faulkner, Jackie Lewis, Saundra Seeley, June White Buffalo and Norma Williams for 25 years of service.

Lorri Davies, Diane Doty, Carol Fox, Glenda Galvan, Shirley Laughlin, Linda Lewis, Tim Postoak and Hazel Wallace each received a watch as a token of appreciation for 20 years of service.

Twenty employees each received a commemorative clock were honored for 15 years of service.

Employees honored for 15 years of service are Tami Morris, Guy Bartlett, Terry Bond, Phillip Burris, Billy Goodman, Vicki Holman, Gwen Postoak, Lawanda Farve, James Lell,Kathy Little, Jennifer Moon, Christy Estes, Tracy Burris, Imogene Imotichey-Walker, Connie Hallmark, Joe Burris, Dean Todd, Linda Williams, Dinah Henson and Bobby Walker.

Fifty-one employees were each honored with a service pen for ten years of service.

Those recognized for 10 years of service are Jalinda Kelley, Linda Daggs, Linda Gross, Lorrie Robins, Cynthia Mose, John Ellis, Shellie Horton, Charles Nail, Dee Sweet, Joyce Burns, Roger Harris, Patricia Medlin, Roger Pinson, Charles Wagon, Elaine Hill, Lena Frazier, Jennifer Kelley, Latonia Orphan, Monte Deatherage, Louise Gore, Jerry Gilbert, Dolores Higdon, Othalene Johnson, Ramona Miller, Jerry Jones, Darlene Adams, Patricia Marsh, Brenda Stephens, Linda Dean, Wisey

Lynn Worcester, Pat Woods, and Stanley Foster were each honored for 30 years of service. The 30-year honorees are flanked by Gov. Anoatubby and Lt. Gov. Keel.

20 years of service: Front row from left are Governor Anoatubby, Diane Doty, Carol Fox and Lt. Gov. Keel. Back row from left are Linda Lewis, Tim Postoak, Shirley Laughlin, Hazel Wallace, Glenda Galvan and Lorri Davies.

25 years of service: Front row from left are Lt. Gov. Keel, Norma Williams, Jackie Lewis and Gov. Anoatubby. Back row from left are June White Buffalo, Saundra Seeley, Renee Burkhardt, Terry Davis and Diana Faulkner. Not pictured Gary Childers.

15 years of service: Front row from left are Lt. Gov. Keel, Linda Williams, Dinah Henson, Jennifer Moon, Christy Estes, Bobby Walker and Gov. Anoatubby. Second row from left are Imogene Imotichey-Walker, Joe Burris, Guy Bartlett, Terry Bond, Philip Burris, Billy Goodman. Back row from left are Vicki Holman, Gwen Postoak, Tami Morris, Lawanda Farve, Kathy Little and Connie Hallmark. Not pictured are James Lell, Tracy Burris and Dean Todd.

Chickasaw Nation employees honored for service

Harjo, Carol Kaniatobe, Shawn Brewer, Vicki Canada, Michael Peercy, Dale Babb, Lisa Eddings, Nancy Hobbs, Stefan Iorga, Kirk Perry, Angela Gambel, Frances Fortner, Clifford Jones, Julia Walker, Tajuana Walton, Thomas Clark, Mike Reed, Jerry Romana, Lori Cotanny, Allen Elliott and Melinda Ward.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Those recognized for 10 years of service are Jalinda Kelley, Linda Daggs, Linda Gross, Lorrie Robins, Cynthia Mose, John Ellis, Shellie Horton, Charles Nail, Dee Sweet, Joyce Burns, Roger Harris, Patricia Medlin, Roger Pinson, Charles Wagon, Elaine Hill, Lena Frazier, Jennifer Kelley, Latonia Orphan, Monte Deatherage, Louise Gore, Jerry Gilbert, Dolores Higdon, Othalene Johnson, Ramona Miller, Jerry Jones, Darlene Adams, Patricia Marsh, Brenda Stephens, Linda Dean, Wisey Harjo, Carol Kaniatobe, Shawn Brewer, Vicki Canada, Michael Peercy, Dale Babb, Lisa Eddings, Nancy Hobbs, Stefan Iorga, Kirk Perry, Angela Gambel, Frances Fortner, Clifford Jones, Julia Walker, Tajuana Walton, Thomas Clark, Mike Reed, Jerry Romana, Lori Cotanny, Allen Elliott and Melinda Ward.

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS MONTHLY MEETINGS

~~~ Meetings are subject to change, please call the contact person to confirm ~~~

Ada Chickasaw Community Council
Ada, OK
3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm
Marie Bailey Community Center
Lura Mullican
580-272-5085
l.mullican@chickasaw.net

Connerville Area Chickasaw Community Council
Connerville, OK
Tue. before the 3rd Fri. of the month at 6:30 pm
Connerville Chickasaw Senior Citizen Site
Emma Mcleod
580-836-7871
emma.mcleod@chickasaw.net

Duncan Chickasaw Community Council
Duncan, OK
1st Monday at 6:30 pm
2414 Harris Drive
Sherri Rose, Chair
580-255-0152
wildrose6739@sbcglobal.net

Johnston County Chickasaw Community Council
Tishomingo, OK
3rd Monday at 6:30 pm – January meeting date is a Holiday. Next meeting is February 12, 2007
Call for information
Ann Fink, Chair
580-371-3351
flora.fink@chickasaw.net

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Enos, OK – 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Enos Fire Department
Sara Lea, Chair
580-564-4570
lsar747@duracom.net

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Amber - Blanchard - Minco - Newcastle - Tuttle Area, OK
2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm
Chickasaw Enterprises Training Center
400 NW 32nd Hwy. 37
Newcastle, OK
Jeanette Haywood, Chair
405-381-4101
jeanette.haywood@yahoo.com

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
Oklahoma City, OK
1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Chickasaw Council House
3301 E. Reno
Oklahoma City, OK
Betty Smith, Chair
405-348-7459
pikeyscrossing@yahoo.com

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
Purcell, OK
4th Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Regional Office – 1601 S. Green Ave.
Keith Shackleford, Chair
405-527-5745
lowakchuffa@yahoo.com

COLORADO ~~~
Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Denver, CO
2nd Saturday at 11:30 am
Call for location
Carol Berry
303-235-0282
Chickasaw303@yahoo.com

CALIFORNIA ~~~
Inland Empire/Desert Cities Chickasaw Community Council
Banning, CA
3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm
Call for location
Lynn M. Dorrough, Chair
909-213-7273
liknryn@hotmail.com

KANSAS ~~~
Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita, KS
Wichita, KS
3rd Sunday at 3:00 pm.
Call for Location
Lynn Stumblingbear, Chair
316-945-9219
lynnstumblingbear@hotmail.com
Pam Harjo, Vice-Chair
316-393-0696

TEXAS ~~~
Chickasaw Community Council of Central and South Texas
San Antonio, TX Area
Call for time and location
Michele Moody, Chair
210-492-2288
mmoody@docuguides.com

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Dallas/Fort Worth Area, TX
3rd Saturday at 3:00 pm
Call for location
John C. Atkins, Chair
972-271-0692
Injunjon2@verizon.net
Linda Hewitt, Secretary
214-543-1080
Lhewitt9@netzero.com

New ideas, 'Chickasaw spirit' pave road of success

Chickasaw business owner encourages others to 'take the leap!'

Shop owner Mike Hudson and his wife Kristi proudly stand in their new 40,000 sq. feet facility.

"It's like jumping out a perfectly good airplane," Chickasaw Mike Hudson of Kingsville, Missouri said when he decided to start his own business.

At the time, Mr. Hudson was a 32-year-old supervisor reporting directly to the vice-president of a $40 million a year company. Through hard work, he had been promoted from a discrete punch machine worker to the supervisor of an elevator manufacturing company.

If it's not broke don't fix, right? Wrong.

Mr. Hudson decided to quit his job. In 1997, he bought an outdated fabrication shop that included a manual mill, lathe and a break press in a 1,000 square-foot facility. He had no machine shop experience. Heartland Fabrication and Machine was born.

The shop serves multiple industries by making stainless steel parts and components for many different types of operations.

"I borrowed $10,000 from Larry (his father-in-law) to the buy the business and I knew it would be successful," Mr. Hudson said.

He said it was simply the right time. Embracing his Chickasaw heritage helped him make the decision.

"From the beginning, I believed that the Chickasaws had an entrepreneurial spirit greater than any other," he said. "People need to take notice of Native Americans because we have a lot more fight and integrity."

Mr. Hudson and Heartland Fabrication and Machine have grabbed the industry's attention and people have taken notice. That Chickasaw spirit has also led him to success.

Since 1997, the shop has upsized three times and now is located in a 40,000 square-foot facility that employs 32. The company, in Independence, Missouri, is currently achieving $2 million a year in sales. Hudson anticipates that number to increase to $6 million in two years since he was recently certified as an 8(a) business. The 8(a) small business development program was created to help small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the American economy. The certification allows the shop to be eligible for government contracts.

Some of Hudson's 32 employees work hard on the shop floor.

On December 14, Mr. Hudson's birthday, he landed his first government military contract.

He has since replaced the outdated manual equipment with computer-operated CNC (computer numerical control) equipment.

When he started, Mr. Hudson said all of his small shop competitors were still running their shops like the 1980s with manual equipment.

"I didn't know any better but to bring new ideas into small business," he said. "I teach guys who have been on the job for 15-20 years new things every day."

In 2004, Heartland Fabrication and Machine acquired a computer-controlled router that represented "cutting edge" technology in job shops. Mr. Hudson said usually big, industry-specific companies like Boeing used CNC routers. He said he was one of the first general job shops to get this machine, giving him a competitive edge.

Mr. Hudson and Heartland Fabrication and Machine have been featured in publications like the Independence (Missouri) Council for Economic Development and trade magazines such as Mid-America Commerce and Industry.

Contributed by Kandis Murdock, tribal media relations.

Mike Hudson's tips for making your small business a success

Socially and economically disadvantaged are words that could describe Chickasaw business owner Mike Hudson's upbringing.

At age 10, he was running his grandpa's tractor on their family farm in Lamonte, Missouri. At 12, he started plowing other people's fields for money.

"I grew up on a farm and you get to where nothing gets in your way," Mr. Hudson said.

He said he never really considered college as an option because, then, he felt school was just keeping him from working. He graduated high school and has never stopped working since.

"I've gotten the best education I could get by the school of hard knocks," Mr. Hudson said.

He said he is business savvy and good at algebra, though.

"Everyday is an algebra problem," he said. "I know what A and B is. I just gotta go out and get C."

Although it is hard work, Mr. Hudson said owning your own business can be rewarding.

"I enjoy the freedom of decision-making and the ability to have a vision and take my company to that vision," he said.

Hudson said most of all, he just wants to inspire other people to follow their dreams and "jump out that airplane."

Here are a few philosophies and tips Mike Hudson wants you to consider before you take the big leap:

1) Owning your own business sounds nostalgic, but it is NOT for everyone.

"You have to be able to come in one day and have the rug jerked completely from under you, pick yourself up by the boot straps and come back the next day to have it happen to you again."

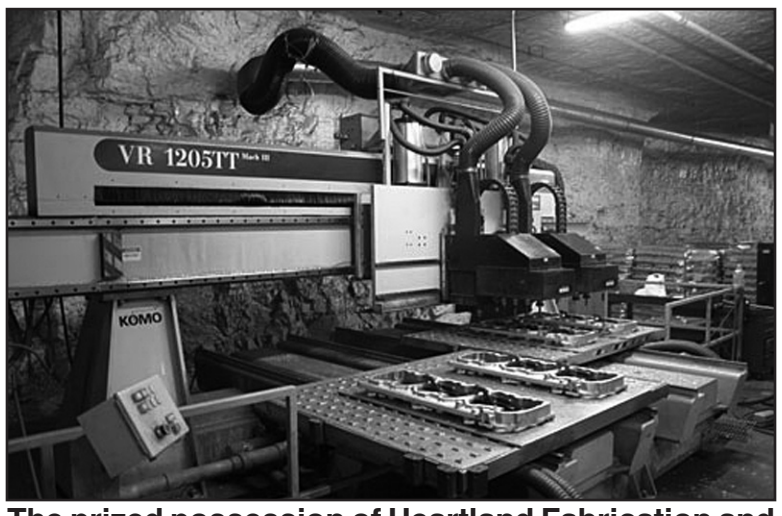
In 2001, Hudson said he struggled to keep his business afloat while 30 other city machine shops closed. He was burnt out from working long hours. However, in 2003, he completely revamped his shop from employee training to ordering supplies. Everything now has a protocol and procedure and his shop is ISO compliant, allowing him to attract bigger companies and more work.

2) Surround yourself with good people

3) If you ever thought you should fire a person, fire them.

4) Treat your vendors as good as your customers. They can help make you successful.

5) "If you are the type of person who does not get excited on Sunday because you work on Monday, don't do it. But if you are the kind of person who puts pride in your work, then you may can do it."



The prized possession of Heartland Fabrication and Machine, the CNC Router.

The debonair entrance of the underground machine shop.

Chikashsha Anompa

Pishokchi kapassa ishko-li I'm drinking cold milk.	Pishokchi---milk Kapassa-----cold ishko--drink
Impa ish chompa tum? Did you buy groceries?	Impa----------groceries Buy----------chompa
Paska champoli paska-li tok. I baked sweet bread.	Paska ----------bread Champoli-----sweet
Ahi hoponi-li. I'm cooking potatoes.	Ahi----------potatoes Hoponi--------cooking
Shokha nipi e-bashli tok. We cut the pork.	Shokha--------pig nipi-----meat Bashli----------To cut
Himakosi hash impa chi? Are you eating right now?	Himakosi-----right now Impa----------eat
Tili'ko chompa tok. She bought flour.	Tili'ko----------flour Chompa------bought
Paska-ut bash-li tok. I cut the bread.	
Impa-ut alhtaha. Dinner is ready.	Alhtaha------- ready
Bashpo pisa. He sees a knife.	Bashpo-------knife Pisa----------see
Akankoshi-ut alhtaha? Are the eggs ready?	Akankoshi--eggs
Akankoshi hoponi? Is he cooking eggs?	
Akankoshi chompa. He is buying eggs.	
Abooha chofalli tok. He cleaned the house.	Chofalli-------clean Abooha-------house

Customer Service survey on the web

Chickasaw citizens who complete a new tribal customer service survey will have the opportunity to win $100.

Chickasaws can access the Customer Service Survey by going to the tribal website at www.chickasaw.net. The survey seeks input from citizens regarding tribal programs, services and customer service.

Once you have completed the survey, you can enter the $100 giveaway. The $100 will be given away each quarter. Winners will be announced in *the Chickasaw Times*.

Scrapbooking 24/7
300 E. 10th, Ada, OK 74820
(580) 279-8056
Photo Albums, Stickers, 12x12 Cardstock, Tools & Supplies, Custom School Albums, Mini Classes, Crop Night, Birthday Parties, Custom Invitations, Albums/Pgs. Completed For You.
Hours: M-F 10-4:30/Sat. 10-2
Owner: Tracy Harjo

Scholarships, employment available to Indian students in natural resources majors

Indian college students who are studying, or would like study, in the field of natural resources can qualify for tuition assistance, summer employment and post-graduate employment through a special program.

The National Center for Cooperative Education in Natural Resources (NCCE), located on the campus of Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, offers up to $5,000 in annual tuition assistance. The center also offers summer employment with pay ranges from $10 to $12 per hour, plus the opportunity to work with the BIA and tribal professionals after graduation.

Natural resources majors include forestry, soil conservation, range management, wildlife management, geographic information systems (GIS), watershed/hydrology, fisheries management and civil engineering. Other associated majors may also be considered.

To apply, students should submit federal employment form OF 612 or resume, BIA form 4432 verification of Indian preference for employment, letter of application, letter of recommendation from academic adviser or faculty member, proof of enrollment or acceptance, and transcript and current class schedule.

A letter of support from tribal or BIA area or agency natural resources staff is helpful, but not required.

For assistance, contact Dr. Doug Eifler at (785) 749-8414 or daeifler@fs.fed.us

You may send application package to Dr. Eifler at Natural Resources Liaison Office, Haskell Indian Nations University, 155 Indian Avenue, Box 5018, Lawrence, KS 66046.

Application deadline is March 5, 2007.

Signature Series
Chickasaw Historical Society Artist Calendar 2007
The Chickasaw Historical Society
For a limited time, you can save $5 simply by becoming a member of The Chickasaw Historical Society.
For only $30 you will receive The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture on a quarterly basis and our award winning Chickasaw Artist Calendar.
Don't wait, this offer will not last long.
Please call: 580.436.2603 Ext. 7327 and become a member today!
Chickasaw Historical Society

'Walk' to NYC includes reduced blood sugar, lower weight

'Big Apple Walk' spurs participants on to new accomplishments

Guy Milner, center, receives his grand prize from Ada Wellness Center Manager Melinda Ward, left, and Wellness Counselor/ Educator Erica Berryman. Mr. Milner was the first to walk more than 1,300 miles as part of "The Big Apple Walk" challenge sponsored by the Chickasaw Wellness Center. The challenge spurred on participants to spend time each day walking to reach a goal of 1,301.9 miles – the distance from the Wellness Center to New York City.

It's a little over 1,300 miles from the Chickasaw Nation's Ada Family Life Center to New York, New York. It's 1,301.9 miles, to be exact.

If unsure of that fact, just ask Ada resident Guy Milner. He walked it – all 6,874,032 feet of it.

Well, he didn't literally walk to New York, but he did put in that many miles in approximately nine months to become the grand prize winner of "The Big Apple Walk" sponsored by the Ada Wellness Center.

On December 18, 2006, Mr. Milner became the first to complete the challenge and finished with a total of 1,304.2 miles. For his outstanding effort, he was awarded a two-night stay at the Microtel Hotel at WinStar Casinos in Thackerville, free dinner vouchers at the casino's fine restaurants and a one-day golf pass for two at the new WinStar Golf Course.

When the contest began in March 2006, Mr. Milner walked a total of three miles per day. Soon he was able to increase to five to seven miles per day. Toward the end of the contest, he was walking approximately 10 miles per day, even pushing himself one day to 15.5 miles.

When asked what he gained from the walk, Mr. Milner said, "I lost weight and lowered my blood sugar (Mr. Milner is a diabetic). I made several new friends and also recruited my wife, Sue, on occasion to walk with me."

He also said the exercise helped build up his stamina and feels he could walk all day if he had too.

"The (Ada Wellness Center) is a great asset to the community," Mr. Milner said. "The staff is professional, friendly and helpful to clients. The center is kept scrupulously clean and well maintained by all staff members. It is an excellent place to work out with old and new found friends in a pleasant environment. The Nation and staff are to be commended for a worthwhile health service."

Ada Wellness Center Manager Melinda Ward said, "We are very proud of Mr. Milner. To date, he still continues to walk and motivate his old and new friends."

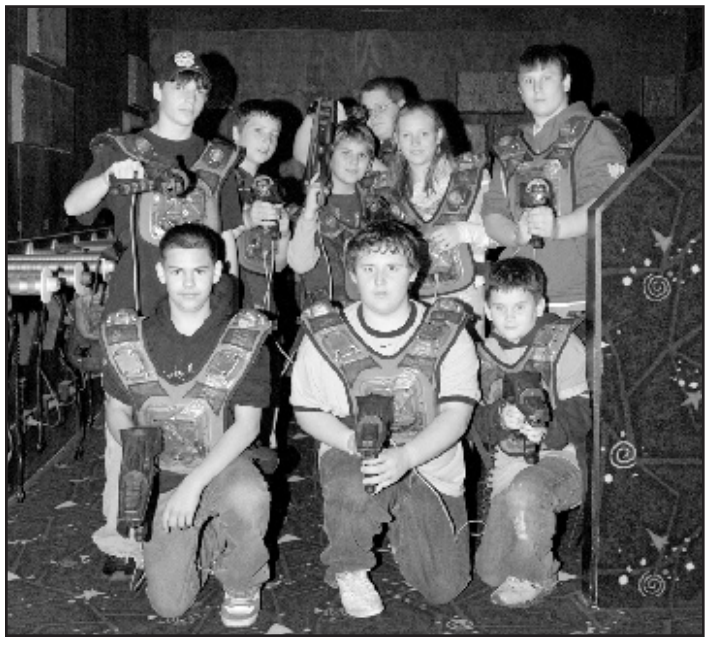
Other members participating in "The Big Apple Walk" are Charles Blankenship, currently in second place with 1014.45 miles; Bruce Brents currently in third place with 536 miles; James Hill with 305.1 miles; Clyde Meeks with 290.83 miles; and Shirley Hill with 276.72 miles.

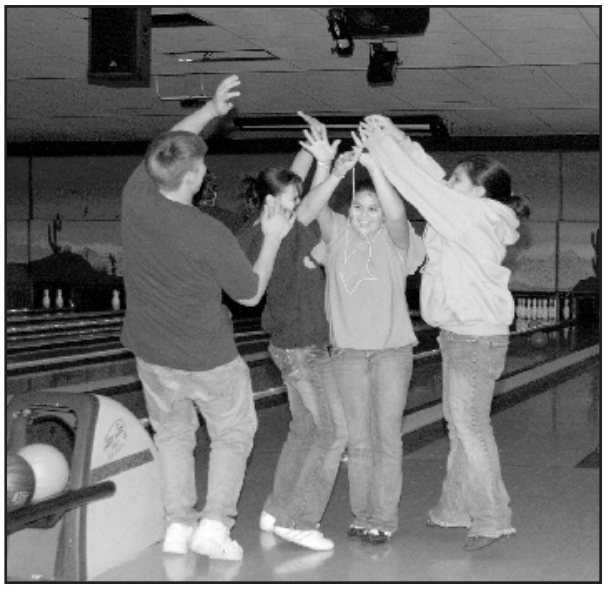
Ada Wellness Center is continuing the challenge until each participant has completed the walk and will also award those finishing in second and third place.

For more information about the Ada Wellness Center or this program, contact Melinda Ward at (580) 310-3661

Contributed by Kerri McDonald, tribal media relations.

Youth Winter Lock-In 2007





December 2006 Students of the Month

Students of the Month have been selected for December 2006 in all four districts of the Chickasaw Nation.

Up to 24 awards are presented each month, as male and female student of the month awards are available in elementary, middle school and high school in each of the four districts of the Chickasaw Nation.

Each student of the month receives a recognition plaque and a $25 Wal-Mart gift certificate.

All Native American Students with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood in grades one through 12 attending participating schools in the Chickasaw Nation are eligible for student of the month.

Students are nominated by teachers, counselors, JOM coordinators, principals or other school personnel in recognition of academic accomplishments, leadership qualities, positive attitude, work ethic, citizenship and other criteria.

Following are students of the month, along with selected comments from those who nominated each student.

Julia Miller of Ravia Elementary is the December student of the month for Tishomingo District.

"**Julia Miller** is very respectful to her peers and teachers and shows a positive attitude," said Debbie Akins.

Mikayla Hook of Washington Elementary (Ada)**, Dustin West** of Latta Elementary and **Nikki DeCoteau Stepps** of Ada Jr. High, **Boone Spores** of Lexington Jr. High and **Brianne Bryant** of Lexington High and **David Scott** of Ada High are the students of the month for Pontotoc District.

Mikayla Hook

"**Mikayla Hook** would make an outstanding Student of the Month because everything she does is outstanding!" said Jill Brown. "Mikayla works hard each day and always gives 100%. Her hard work pays off because her score on homework and tests are almost always A's! She is a very kind, caring, young lady and it is apparent she has been raised by loving parents."

"**Dustin West** is one of the best behaved students I have," said Kristi Smith. "He is always respectful to others and behaves in any situation. He is also academically successful. He consistently maintains an 'A' average and works hard on all subject areas. Dustin deserves your consideration."

Dustin West

"**Nikki DeCoteau Stepps** has shown great improvement in her academics and attitude this year," said Diane Jacob. "She is maturing into a fine young lady. She is very active in Native Spirit and is proud of her heritage. She is the office aide for the Indian Education office and is very dependable and responsible. Please give her serious consideration for this honor as she is certainly deserving."

Nikki DeCoteau Stepps

"**Boone Spores** is a very outgoing student," said Meredith Jones. "He never passes up to opportunity to say Hello and is quick to offer his help when needed. He is well liked by his peers and his teachers. He has great work ethic and makes A's and B's. He is a talented artist and never misses the JOM art club meetings. He is proud of his Indian Heritage and is very knowledgeable of his ancestry. He is very responsible and is often asked to conduct errands for his teacher."

Boone Spores

"**Brianne Bryant** is a most enjoyable young lady," said Meredith Jones. "She is a hard worker and is determined to succeed. She excels not only academically but athletically as well. For the past two years she has made all conference in fast pitch softball. She is a state qualifier in track also. Brianne is active in show choir, Spanish Club, and Gifted & Talented. After graduation Brianne plans to become a veterinarian. She intends to get a jump start on her college education by attending Oklahoma City Community College concurrently next year."

Brianne Bryant

"**David Scott** is a fine young man and an excellent student," said Chuck Roberts. "He has always challenged himself academically by taking advanced courses and even concurrent enrollment college courses during his high school career. David is also involved in several extracurricular activities including the Native American Club and the stickball team at our high school. David currently has a 4.17 GPA and will graduate this spring. He will be a fine representative of the student of the month award."

Ashlyn Fixico of Franklin Elementary (Ardmore) and **Joshua Walls** of Charles Evans Elementary (Ardmore), **Destiny Chastain** of Plainview Jr. High and **Cain Arledge** of Turner Jr. High and **Courtney Branch** of Turner Jr. High are the students of the month for Pickens District.

"**Ashlyn Fixico** participates in all activities," said Mrs. Long. "She works hard to achieve her goals. Her attitude toward teachers and students is outstanding."

Ashlyn Fixico

"**Joshua Walls** demonstrates responsibility, good work and ethics," said Mrs. Davidson.

Joshua Walls

"**Destiny Chastain** is a bright young lady with a purpose for her life," said Kim Woods. "She works hard to keep grades up and comes to tutoring each day to get her work checked. I know that she will be very successful in life. Destiny will represent the Native American Culture in a most positive way."

Destiny Chastain

"**Cain Arledge** is an excellent student," said Sue Kelley. "Cain has an awesome personality. He is a leader among his class."

Cain Arledge

"**Courtney Branch** is an outstanding example of scholarship and leadership in her class at school," said Arlyn Brantley. "Her activities are numerous including Class Officer, Student Council, Oklahoma Honor Society, 4-H, and All Star Cheerleading Team. She readily accepts opportunities to serve her classmates and school while recognizing the importance of leadership through service. I must also say that her performance in my class subjects is exemplary and she is a joy to work with each year. Her artistic talents are natural and I really look forward to seeing her participate in the Advanced Placement Program. Please consider Courtney as a well-qualified candidate for this honor. She deserves and would represent your program to the best of her ability."

Centennial Writing Contest, continued from page 1

"Being able to express yourself with the written word is such an important tool to obtain," said Governor Anoatubby. "The ability to communicate our experiences to others opens doors and builds bridges between cultures."

There is no fee to enter the writing contest and proof of Chickasaw citizenship is required. The contest is part of a larger celebration of National Youth Arts Month observed in March 2007.

Contest entries must be received on or before Friday, March 2, 2007. A panel of judges will evaluate original works based on age division, category of work, how well the creative writing relates to the topic, artistic form and literary expression. Winning entries will be determined by March 22. Winners will be invited to receive their prizes and medals at the Youth Arts Month Celebration and Reception on March 30, in Ada, Okla.

Completed entry forms must be submitted along with entries and mailed to the Chickasaw Nation Division of Arts and Humanities, Attn: Department of Chickasaw Humanities and Literary Arts, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821. Entries may also be hand-delivered by the deadline to the division at 100 E. 13th Street, suites 218 or 224, in Ada.

For more information, call (580) 272-5520 or email Kelley Isom, coordinator, at kelley.isom@chickasaw.net or Laura Clark, assistant, at laura.clark@chickasaw.net. Forms and information are also available on line at www.chickasaw.net.

Huffman, Renfro to wed

Ellis and Diane Huffman, of Austin, Texas are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Kay Pulliman Huffman to Mr. Aaron Brandon Renfro.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of June Huffman, Fort Worth, Texas.

The future groom is the son of Gary and Janice Renfro, Holly Lake Ranch, Texas. He is the grandson of Paul and Lorene Renfro, of Duncan, Okla.

The couple will exchange wedding vows July 14, 2007 at the Creekside Pavillion , in the Austin Hill Country.

With blessings from Laura and Aaron's families, we all wish them the best!

Aaron Renfro and Laura Huffman

14 Chickasaw students qualify for Fall 2006 Chickasha Holitoplichi

The Chickasaw Nation is proud to have 14 Chickasaw students who qualified for Chickasha Holitoplichi in the 2006 Fall Semester.

Chickasha Holitoplichi is the Chickasaw Nation honor society that was established in the fall of 2005 to recognize the academic success of Chickasaw college students. The program promotes the exemplary work and achievement of Chickasaw students who are enrolled in an accredited college or university.

Those qualified are: Simon Anzaldua, OSU-OKC; Brandon Berryhill, Northeastern State University; James Bettes, University of Central Oklahoma, Jenna Clark, Moody Bibly Institute; Matthew Griffith, Cameron; Staci Harp, Oklahoma Baptist University; Kenneth Harp, East Central University; Jessica Justus, University of North Texas; Leonard Lamb, St. Edward's University; Paul Moore, Institute of American Indian Arts; Derek Prentice, East Central University; Eric Reed, Langston University; Jamie Rowell, Oklahoma State University; Stacy Wesberry, Murray State College

Warning issued regarding emissions from generators

In the wake of the recent ice storms and associated cold weather in Oklahoma, health agencies and hospitals are issuing warnings regarding the use of generators and their emission of dangerous carbon monoxide.

During the January storms in Oklahoma, at least 40 cases of carbon monoxide exposure or poisoning were reported at eastern Oklahoma hospitals. During and after the storms, McAlester Regional Hospital reported seeing at least one case of carbon monoxide poisoning daily.

When ice storms come, power outages are often the result. Some areas of Oklahoma went for up to two weeks without electric power. Gasoline- and diesel-powered generators are often used as alternative energy producers to heat and light homes and businesses.

Generators should never be used inside a home or building. Because they operate with gasoline or diesel fuel, generators emit exhaust and potentially deadly carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is colorless and odorless, but its entry into the blood stream can cause dizziness, nausea, breathing problems and, in extreme cases, death.

If you are going to use a generator, always place the generator outside for operation.

Graduate List

Sixty-seven Chickasaw students from colleges around the country, who received educational funding through the Chickasaw Nation, recently earned their degrees and graduated in December of 2006. Those students earning degrees include:

LastName	FirstName	City	State	Major	CollegeName	Degree
Bailey	Derrick	Augusta	GA	Computer Science	Georgia Military College	Associates
Beasley	Dustin	Kingston	OK	Education	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Bachelors
Berryhill	Brandon	Broken Arrow	OK	Criminal Justice	Northeastern State University	Bachelors
Burris II	Jackie	Tulsa	OK	Marketing	Northeastern State University	Bachelors
Clark	Jenna	Ft. Smith	AR	Religious Studies	Moody Bible Institute	Bachelors
Coleman	Jennifer	Albany	OK	Business	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Bachelors
Cook	Lacey	Tishomingo	OK	Business	Murray State College	Associates
Cooke	Kelsey	Cameron	TX	Nutrition	Texas State University - San Marcos	Bachelors
Copeland	David	Harrison	AR	History	College of the Ozarks	Bachelors
Davis	Joshua	Ada	OK	Political Science	Texas A & M University-Commerce	Bachelors
Givens	Toby	Bedford	TX	Education	University of North Texas	Bachelors
Hamilton	Jason	Moore	OK	Midwife	Oklahoma City Community College	Bachelors
Hare	Susan	Ardmore	OK	Communications	Oklahoma City University	Bachelors
Hatton	Bobby	Ada	OK	Medicine	East Central University	Bachelors
Hayes	Christopher	Collierville	TN	Religious Studies	Oklahoma Baptist University	Bachelors
Henry	Kristina	Portland	OR	General Studies	Portland Community College	Bachelors
Hightower	Ruby	Midwest City	OK	Business	University of Phoenix - Phoenix	Bachelors
Holder	Jared	Healdton	OK	Medicine	University of North Texas	Bachelors
Hulsey	Kenneth	Ada	Ok	Chemistry	East Central University	Bachelors
Joachimstaler	Crystal	St. Louis	MO	Counseling	Maryville University	Bachelors
Johnson	Jesse	Trinidad	CO	Gunsmithing Technology	Trinidad State Jr. College	Bachelors
Keel	Falisha	Sulphur	OK	Business	Cameron University	Bachelors
Kincheloe	Kevin	Durant	OK	Business	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Bachelors
Kirby	Tressa	Alexander	VA	Communications	Radford University	Bachelors
Kraus	Kellie	Mustang	OK	X-Ray Med. Tech	Heritage College	Bachelors
Leslie	Jacquelyn	Lynnwood	WA	Communications	Marist College	Bachelors
Liston	Royce	OKC	OK	Sociology	Oklahoma City Community College	Bachelors
McAlister	Lloyd	Edmond	OK	Business	Oklahoma State University - Stillwater	Bachelors
McGee	Sheleatha	Ardmore	OK		East Central University	Bachelors
McGuire	Kristene	Edmond	OK	Education	University of Central Oklahoma	Bachelors
Moore	Paul	Santa Fe	NM	Art	Institute of American Indian Art	Bachelors
Morgan	Kenny	Ada	OK	Undecided	University of Oklahoma	Bachelors
Mullins	Tonya	Krebs	OK	Human Resources	Eastern Oklahoma State College	Bachelors
Norris	Chad	Norman	OK	Zoology	University of Oklahoma	Bachelors
Norris	Corey	Norman	OK	Aviation	Tulsa Community College	Bachelors
Olds	Lindsey	Sacramento	CA	Psychology	California State University - Sacramento	Bachelors
Ott	Brian	Denton	TX	Undecided	North Central Texas College	Bachelors
Parks	Brandon	Pauls Valley	OK	Undecided	Oklahoma State University - Stillwater	Bachelors
Patterson	Aaryn	Holdenville	OK	Education	Seminole State College	Bachelors
Philley	Edward	Bixby	OK	Aviation	Tulsa Community College	Bachelors
Porter	Paul	Ann Arbor	MI	Law	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	Bachelors
Prentice	Derek	Allen	OK	Environmental Science	East Central University	Bachelors
Presley	Joseph	Ada	OK	Counseling	East Central University	Bachelors
Rowe	Susan	Goldsby	OK	Nursing	Oklahoma City Community College	Bachelors
Rowell	Jamie	Duncan	OK	Early Childhood Development	Oklahoma State University - Stillwater	Bachelors
Sanford	Charity	Uvalde	TX	Communications	Texas A & M University - College Station	Bachelors
Scroggins	Nicole	Cowiche	WA	Undecided	Yakima Valley Community College	Bachelors
Short	Cynthia	Greenbrier	AR	Nursing	Univ. of Arkansas Community College-Morrilton	Bachelors
Skinner	Zack	Carlsbad	NM	Business	University of Oklahoma	Bachelors
Small	Andee	Paonia	CO	Anthropology	Mesa State College	Bachelors
Smith	Angela	Tishomingo	OK	Digital Design	The Art Institute Online	Bachelors
South	Aaron	Ada	OK	Business	East Central University	Bachelors
Spillman	Katherine	Newcastle	OK	Business Administration	University of Phoenix - Phoenix	Bachelors
Steffen	Misty	Blanchard	OK	Marketing	Oklahoma City Community College	Bachelors
Sweeney	Kassie	Madill	OK	Interior Design	University of Central Oklahoma	Bachelors
Taylor	John	Dallas	TX	Business Management	Oklahoma State University - Stillwater	Bachelors
Thompson	Andrew	Edmond	OK	International Studies	University of Oklahoma	Bachelors
Totte	Anna	Lawton	OK	Education	Cameron University	Bachelors
Wallace	Kristie	Ardmore	OK	Business Administration	Rogers State University	Bachelors
Walters	Valorie	Ada	OK	Mass Communications/Media	East Central University	Bachelors
Warren	Whitney	Midwest City	OK	Marketing	University of Central Oklahoma	Bachelors
Wesberry	Stacy	Tishomingo	OK	Business	Murray State College	Associates
White	Brooke	Tooele	UT	Landscape Management	Brigham Young University	Bachelors
Wolfe	Jessica	Marietta	OK	English	Murray State College	Associates
Worchester	James	Ada	OK	Retail Merchandising	East Central University	Bachelors
Wright	Brandi	Duncan	OK	Journalism	Oklahoma State University - Stillwater	Bachelors
Yott	Kenneth "Miles"	McAlester	OK	Criminal Justice	Mid-America Christian University	Bachelors

"TRIBES"

All Indian Men's Basketball Tournament

Murray State College
Tishomingo, OK
March 24 - 25, 2007

8 Man Roster (not including Coach)
$150 Entry Fee **($75 due by March 16, 2007)**
Prizes: 1st - Jackets • 2nd - Long Sleeve T's
All Tournament Team Selection • MVP Award

For more information please contact, Sara (405) 822-4427, Erin, (580) 235-1412 or Nola (580) 371-1610.

***Must present CDIB if protested.*
*Brackets will be released no later than Wed., March 21***

OKC Chickasaw Council to hear Lighthorse presentation

Our speaker for the Tuesday, February 6 monthly Council meeting will be a representative from the Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department. He will be accompanied by a drug sniffing dog. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. at 3301 East Reno in Oklahoma City.

In case of ice or snow, our meetings will be canceled only if the Oklahoma City Public School System announces it is closing for bad weather.

A Garage Sale was scheduled for January 27. Hopefully, the weather cooperated and it was a success. If a blizzard forced us to postpone it, we will re-schedule the fundraiser in February.

Judy Ashley is scheduled to teach a Pine Needle Basket Class on two Saturdays, February 3 and 10, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the 3301 E. Reno Council building.

Please contact Vice Chair MaryAnn Lee at 405-341-7874 for more information and to enroll.

The Chickasaw Language class continues on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. Call Stormy Bryant at 405-755-6983 for information.

Our Council By-Laws were amended at the January meeting while we enjoyed eating sandwiches and delicious desserts. Copies will be handed out at the February monthly meeting. Additional work needs to be completed on these later this year and we welcome suggestions.

For additional information, contact Chair Betty Smith at 405-348-7459 or visit our web site at www.okc-chickasaw-council.org.

It is time once again to feature our Chickasaw High School Seniors!

The *Chickasaw Times* would like to congratulate each of you on your accomplishment by featuring you in our May 2007 issue.

Your biography and photo will appear in this special issue if you complete the form below and mail it to us with a photo no later than ***Monday, April 23, 2007.***

Senior Profile Form

Please include return address with photo

Name _____

Home town _____

High School _____

Parents/guardians _____
(If parents are deceased or divorced, please indicate)

Grandparents _____

Information about graduate *(include school activities, extracurricular activities, future plans, etc.)*

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please mail your completed form to
The *Chickasaw Times*, 2612 East Arlington, Suite B, Ada, OK 74820

HONOR YOUR GRADUATE

Tchichatala village to be interpretative center, retreat

Clean-up first step in preservation of historic Chickasaw site

By RICHARD GREEN
Contributing Writer

How daunting the clean-up task must have seemed. Nearly thirty-five acres of land southeast of Tupelo, Mississippi were littered with numerous trash and junk piles often at the bottom of steep ravines amid an impenetrable forest of red cedars.

The forested areas of the land contained 10 to 25 foot trees that were tightly bunched and apparently had never been pruned. Branches protruded from the cedars nearly to the forest floor, which was covered with a potentially incendiary combination of brush.

The workers were led around the property, knowing that the refuse piles would have to be removed largely by hand to avoid disturbing the earth. Remains of ancestral Chickasaws are believed to be buried in mainly unknown locations. In addition, the workers understood that it was their job to clean up, prune and thin the forested parts of the land--to make the impenetrable, penetrable.

Thirty Chickasaw Nation workers (all but one was Chickasaw) had eleven days to do the job, and few among them thought it could be done in the time allowed. Their supervisor, experienced landscaper Donnie Rollings, certainly did not, though he realized he had never had a job like this one.

Then, it started to rain, and the weather turned unseasonably cold for mid-November in northern Mississippi. So, as the crew surveyed what promised to be a back-breaking job, what accounted for their smiles and eagerness to begin the hard work?

The short answer is that they had a plan and a lot of motivation; they knew they were doing important work for the tribe. The longer answer also encompasses the feelings that the Chickasaw workers had for their tribal ancestry, especially those who had lived at *this* site in a village known as Tchichatala (Chi-chee-tah-lah) more than two centuries before.

Background

In May 2005, the Chickasaw Nation provided a grant to the Archaeological Conservancy, a private, non-profit organization, to purchase approximately 35 acres of ridge-top land from John Ray and Lottye Betts Beasley of Tupelo (See July 2005 Times). Having lived and farmed there since 1963, the Beasleys had found many Chickasaw artifacts on the ground and in eroded areas and in time realized that their land encompassed what had been a Chickasaw village.

Chickasaws built their villages on elongated ridges overlooking streams in what became the Tupelo area. Tchichatala was one of five early eighteenth-century villages on the ten-mile-long ridge paralleling Coonewah Creek, which cut through the valley below.

As their property was in a rural area, the Beasley family over the years piled refuse in gullies that cut through part of the property. While these were eyesores, the Beasleys were good stewards of the land in a much more important way to the tribe. They never permitted metal-detector wielding artifact collectors to hunt for and excavate the Chickasaw sites. And when they decided to sell their land, which they named Cedarscape, they refused the initial offers from commercial developers so that the buried Chickasaw human remains and artifacts would not be disturbed. Up to 80 percent of the Chickasaw homeland settlements in the Tupelo area have been destroyed by development.

At this point, Jessica Crawford, the southeastern representative of the Archaeological Conservancy, entered the picture. The Conservancy, established in 1980, is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the best of our nation's remaining archaeological sites. She discussed with the Beasleys the Conservancy's interest in acquiring Cedarscape and then contacted me to see if Gov. Anoatubby would be willing to help. Fortunately, this occurred about the time when all parties were learning a lot more about the village.

Ironically, the two men who supplied the information were former artifact collectors Steve Cook and Julian Riley, who were also friends of the Beasleys. Although Riley and Cook never hunted for artifacts at Cedarscape, they had amassed plenty of other evidence suggesting that Cedarscape had been Tchichatala until about 1735. Residents of the village then moved a few miles to the north and east, consolidating with other Chickasaws who also had been attacked regularly by the French and their Indian allies. After the French withdrew from North America in 1763, and the attacks tapered off, some Chickasaws returned to where Tchichatala had been.

On a rare sunny day during their lengthy stay at Cedarscape, the landscape crew trims branches that the chipper transforms into mulch for walking trails.

The Governor delivered the grant to the Conservancy for two reasons. He wanted to preserve the land from commercial development and to build an interpretive center and retreat on this historically important site. To those ends, the Nation and Conservancy will sign a long-term lease.

The Crew Arrives

After assessing the site twice, Chickasaw Development produced a plan and budget for the first phases of the tribe's future educational component at Tchichatala. Phase one was designated to clean up the property.

The tribal crew arrived November 6 in a caravan of nine trucks and seven trailers, carrying the labor force and their equipment. They were met by Jessica Crawford, and the Beasleys who have built a new house immediately adjacent to their former property. Their former house, a small guest house, a pole barn and some rickety out-buildings came with the property now owned by the Conservancy.

Jessica, an archaeologist, led the crew on an orientation tour, discussing the site's history and showing where a few remnants of the village are still buried, according to the Beasleys. She also showed them artifacts that they might find during the clean-up, such as glass trade beads and pieces of pottery and metal. If they encountered what appeared to be human remains, Jessica told them to flag the spot and call her.

"I showed them the daub [clay] pile near the bigger pond [there are two] and explained that Chickasaws used daub as a building material," Jessica says. "So the pile could be the remains of a Chickasaw house. And since the people normally buried their dead under their houses, daub rubble should be treated the same as a grave and be flagged."

According to the Cedarscape Cultural Resources Management Plan signed by the Chickasaw Nation and Archaeological Conservancy, no human remains are to be disturbed. Those unintentionally disinterred will be reburied in private ceremonies carried out by the Nation.

The Work Begins

The crew began trimming the forest on day one, according to Terrence Richardson, Development's code and life safety manager. "We had to trim just to get access to trash piles in some cases."

Says supervisor Donnie Rollings: "One trash pile was nothing but glass bottles, but most contained a variety of stuff. A shower, a hot tub, shopping carts, carpets, many car and tractor tires, a stove, display racks, everything but the kitchen sink."

"No, Donnie, I found the kitchen sink, too" says Christy Anderson. "And we pulled most of the stuff [thousands of pieces] out by hand."

It was quite laborious, but innovation helped. "Once, while working in this one steep ravine, we improvised a way to haul stuff out by loading up this old broken-down horse-drawn wagon," says Donnie. Then, they hitched the wagon not to a horse, but to a tractor which pulled the heavy load out.

Over the first few days, Terrence says, most of the crew worked steadily to remove the

See **Tchichatala clean-up,** *page 22*

'Its About Money'

Banking in your pajamas is just a click away!

Ross Hill

By ROSS HILL
President and CEO
Bank2

When was the last time you thought about checking your bank account balance or paying bills in your pajamas? Okay, chances are the thought of standing in a bank lobby in your house shoes sounds more like a nightmare than a dream come true – *until now*.

No, we aren't inviting you to a slumber party. But we are doing all we can to make banking at Bank2 as convenient as possible. Truth is, with eBank**2**, banking online and paying your bills is fast, easy, safe and FREE! Conducting a transaction in your pajamas is optional!

Like many people you may have wondered if banking online is right for you. At Bank**2** we have spent many hours researching online banking options for the best product available. After years of study we are now happy to introduce the most secure, convenient and up-to-date online banking product available, eBank2!

eBank**2** is one of the most sophisticated Internet banking financial tools available. With eBank2 you can conduct nearly all of transactions traditionally handled at the bank. You can even pay your bills online and retrieve eBank**2** statements online.

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Questions? No problem. We are always at your service. Banking at Bank2 has never been easier. Let us introduce you to eBank2 today. Call toll-free nationwide, 1-877-409-2265. Banking in your pajamas is just a click away!

Ross A. Hill is president-CEO of Bank2. Bank2 is a growing $85 million full service financial institution with headquarters in Oklahoma City, Okla. Bank2 is owned 100% by the Chickasaw Nation. It's About Money is published monthly by Bank2 as a financial service to members of the Chickasaw Nation. To learn more about the many great financial services and Bank2 home loan programs designed especially for Native Americans, call toll-free nationwide, 1-877-409-2265 or visit our Web site at www.bank2.biz

New boxing council to promote Indian fighters

TULSA, Okla. – The North American Boxing Federation (NABF), an organization affiliated with the World Boxing Council recently announced the creation of the Native American Boxing Council. The purpose of this organization is to promote professional boxing among the Native American fighters in Canada, the United States and Mexico.

The NABC will regulate itself under the policies, rules and guidelines of the NABF. The NABF will rank the 10 top professional Native American fighters in each of the 17 weight divisions, with the goal to establish a champion in each division.

Beginning in January 2007, the NABC invites and accepts applications from professional Native American boxers to join the organization. In order to be eligible, fighters must be members of a federally –recognized tribe, as well as meet the established governing rules set by the NABC. All actions of the NABC concerning fights, events or any legal discrepancies will be brought to the NABC President and Board of Governors, which will operate under the supervision of the NABF, for consideration, consultation and approval.

A web page will be established, as well as a monthly publication, which will promote the fighters and fight events throughout North America. These events will be conducted on tribal lands. "It is the hope of the NABC to provide Native American boxers a positive outlet to further their careers, promote tribal culture, and take pride in the recognition of their championships," said Gerald Wofford, President of the NABC.

For more information about entry forms and the NABC contact Mr. Wofford at (918) 691-5432 or at gwoff@cox.net.

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CHUKA CHUKMASI is a secondary market Conventional Loan for Chickasaw Citizens and Chickasaw Nation Employees. The CNDHTD can assist you with down payment and closing costs. Qualified borrowers invest as little as $500.00. We offer expanded underwriting guidelines that allow those with less than perfect credit to be approved. There are no income guidelines. Maximum loan amount is $359,650.00 and the minimum is $10,000. In addition we can assist with refinancing for homeowners who want to lower their interest rates and or payments.

NEW CONSTRUCTION LOANS: Are you interested in building your own home? If you have been approved for your 30 year financing, Housing Counseling & Loan Services can provide an interim construction loan for you to build your home. This program is open to Chickasaws and employees of the Chickasaw Nation anywhere in the State of Oklahoma. The interest rate on the construction loan is only 5%, the term is 6 months and be prepared to make interest payments on the construction loan during construction. Please call us for further information.

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM: Do you need to make improvements to your home but just don't have the money? Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development's Home Improvement Loan Program may be the answer. Maximum loan amount is $30,000.00; interest rate is 5% and maximum term is 10 years. You must be able to qualify for the loan, must have fee simple title and cannot already have a 2nd mortgage for home improvements. Available only for Chickasaws and employees of the Chickasaw Nation in the State of Oklahoma. Work must be completed by a licensed contractor.

Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development

Kay Perry
Director, GML, CHEC
(580) 421-8856
Summer Stick
Section Head, CHEC
(580) 421-8862

901 North Country Club
P.O. Box 788
Ada, OK 74820

Kyra Childers
CHEC
(580) 421-8817
Robert Ingram
Loan Counselor
(580) 421-8867

Tchichatala, continued from page 20

several trash piles and haul the contents to a municipal dump. Not removed or even seen were the trash piles which were products of the residents of Tchichatala. It is believed that these middens, shallow pits filled with eighteenth century trash—animal bones, pottery, and broken tools—lie buried beneath the surface around the property.

With several daily trips to the dump and trips to and from their hotel in vehicles marked Chickasaw Nation, the curiosity of Tupelo residents was piqued. "We told everyone who asked what we were doing and most of the people were real nice. They said it sounded like a real interesting project," says Christy. "They seemed glad to have us there."

When the work started in earnest, the rain did, too, and soon the clay soil turned to sticky mud. Terrence said working in the mud was a challenge, but Donnie came up with a great idea that was both practical and enhanced the property. As the trimming was proceeding, the limbs were fed into wood chippers which produced mulch. Originally, the plan was to sack up the mulch and take it with the trash to the dump. But one day it occurred to landscape supervisor Donnie Rollings that the mulch could be used to make walking trails.

Everyone liked the idea, so the seemingly never-ending supply of chips enabled the workers to avoid some of the mud by walking on and driving over the five-foot wide trails. They also enhanced the look of the forest, says Trey Taylor. He agreed with Donnie who says that "walking along the trail just sort of carried you along, making you want to see what's around the next bend. "[The trail] draws you in down there through the forest that runs along the ridge top far above the valley."

Working about eight hours a day until nearly dusk, it took the workers almost four days to remove the junk piles. They took off only one day, a Sunday. Then the entire crew directed their full attention to the formidable task of clearing away brush and using chain saws to take out dead trees and trim branches up to walking height. Trey was asked how many trees had been trimmed, hundreds? thousands? "A bunch!" he said. "Who was counting"!? said Donnie. "We were psyched."

Although the rain continued on and off throughout their stay and the temperature dipped, Donnie says everyone remained dedicated to the work. Also, the workers who were from Ada and Ardmore bonded unusually well, he adds. "To us, it is a sacred place and we felt privileged to be able to take part in this effort.

That, according to Terrence, is probably why everyone showed such amazing drive and endurance. Actually, the crew not only completed their planned task, they exceeded their scope of work. For example, no work was planned for the larger pond area, which was overgrown with weeds. But the workers cleaned up and mowed around the pond. They also abated erosion there and at other at-risk places by spraying a mixture of grass seed, mulch and water, called hydroseeding.

"I'll be first"

That they exceeded their scope of work doesn't mean there is nothing left to do. More erosion control is needed and the crew wants to thin out the forest along the crest of the ridge to give visitors more vantage points to see the valley and Coonewah Creek. The view from that eighty-foot prominence looking south is not only beautiful, it is also the same view that the Chickasaws of Tchichatala saw when they were looking for signs of Choctaw war parties headed their way.

"When we are asked to come back to do this work, Terrence says, "I'm sure everyone will be glad to sign up again."

"I'll be first," Trey says, emphatically. He says the pride he felt in the crew's accomplishment is no less now than it was on November 17 when they were packing to depart for home.

They took before and after photographs of Cedarscape, tangible evidence of their improvements. Less concrete but gratifying was the reaction of Jessica Crawford, who had been away during the clean-up. Christy says, "You should have seen her face, when she came driving up and saw what we had done. She was just totally amazed."

Hydroseeding is a combination of grass seed, mulch and water sprayed onto eroded land to curb the erosion.

"I *was* amazed, and excited," Jessica says. "They had transformed Cedarscape into a beautiful park."

No less gratifying to the crew was the reaction of the Beasleys. John Ray said if he had known that the land could look like this, he never would have sold it. He joked that he "might try to buy it back."

That last gathering before the crew departed seemed almost ceremonial. Although the Chickasaws had found few artifacts—mainly pot sherds—their hard work on land that had been a tribal village site conferred a feeling of kinship to the place. And, it was fitting to be seen off by the Beasleys who had protected that place during the decades when most Chickasaw sites in the Tupelo area had been destroyed.

The couple was saying goodbye, and welcome back, at the same time.

*****

Afterward: Phase Two consists of an archaeological surface survey of twenty acres, using sophisticated remote sensing equipment designed to identify certain subterranean features of the former village. This February, Jay Johnson, archaeologist with the University of Mississippi, will direct a crew of graduate students in the project that will take about two months. An article on this phase will appear in the *Times* probably this spring.

Readers may contact Richard Green at rgreen26@cox.net or by calling 405-947-5020.

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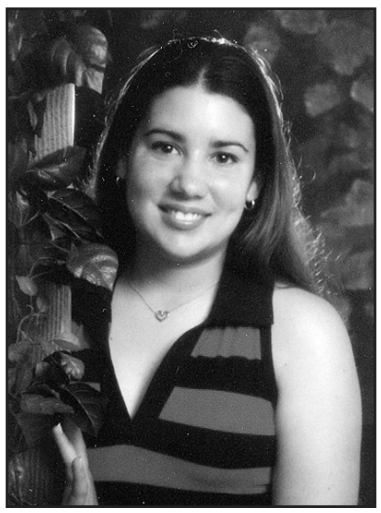
Chickasaw Foundation scholarship recipients

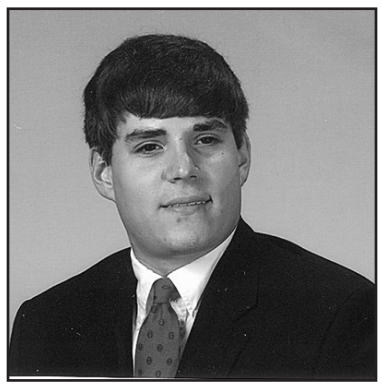


Ashley Heller

Ms. Ashley Heller, Portland, Texas, is the recipient of the 2006-2007 ***John Bennett Herrington Scholarship***. Ms. Heller is a senior at the University of Oklahoma (OU) majoring in chemical engineering.

Ashley is involved with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) at OU and was co-chairman of the AISES Gives Back effort to paint and repair the Community Service Building in Norman, Oklahoma.

The ***John Bennett Herrington Scholarship*** is a $10,000 maximum scholarship awarded annually to a junior or senior Chickasaw student pursuing a degree in engineering, physics, mathematics, chemistry, geophysics, natural science or a related field.



William Worcester

Mr. William Worcester, Brownsboro, Ala., is the recipient of the ***Mitch Musgrove Memorial Scholarship***. Mr. Worcester is a junior at Auburn University majoring in business administration.

William has been active with community projects sponsored by the American Red Cross and Christmas Charities Year Round. He has also volunteered time with the Huntsville Hospital emergency room in the radiology department. He plans to someday have a career in the field of hospital administration.

The ***Mitch Musgrove Memorial Scholarship*** was established by co-workers of the late Mr. Mitch Musgrove who was an employee with the Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing & Tribal Development.

Fine Arts scholarship added to Foundation 2007 lineup

The Chickasaw Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of the ***Chickasaw Foundation Fine Arts Scholarship*** to our application this year.

This scholarship is a $1,500 ($750 semester) scholarship for a Native American student with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood card (cdib) in their junior or senior year at any accredited college or university who is pursuing a degree in Fine Arts (arts, music, dramatics and dance).

Our 2007-2008 scholarship application will be available on our website in February 2007 at www.chickasawfoundation.org. You may also contact our office at (580) 421-9030 for additional information or to be placed on the mailing list. Our email address is chickasawfoundation@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Foundation T-Ball Tournament

Strike One, Strike Two, Strike Three; you will be left out if you don't make plans to attend the Chickasaw Foundation's first T-Ball Tournament on April 20-21, 2007. The tournament will be held at the Kiwanis Baseball Park in Ada. There will one age group; children 6 years and under are invited to participate. Trophies will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams in each division.

Chickasaw Foundation Students of the Month for November and December 2006

Katie Hodges

Lilnita Lozano

The Chickasaw Foundation recently established the Chickasaw Foundation Student of the Month program to recognize and honor students who display the following characteristics: good citizenship, respectful to peers and program staff, program participation, leadership qualities, positive attitude, demonstrates responsibility, community service participation, cultural/tribal activities participation and demonstrates a positive academic work ethic.

Ms. Katie Hodges is the November 2006 Student of the Month. She was nominated by Ms. Kacie Burk, academic advisor. This is her fourth year to be active in the Educational Talent Search program. Katie is a senior at Rush Springs High School and participates in the Student Council as the secretary/treasurer, science club, academic team and the gifted and talented program. She plans to attend college and someday own a small business.

Ms. Lilnita Lozano is the December 2006 Student of the Month. She was nominated by Ms. Susan Webb, academic advisor. Lilnita is a senior at Lone Grove High School. She has been active in the Upward Bound program for the last four years and serves on the Upward Bound Leadership Council. She is also active in the Spanish Club and volunteers at Mercy Memorial Hospital. She has been named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, and is a member of the National Honor Society. She plans on attending the University of Oklahoma and majoring in pre-med to be a pediatrician.

Upward Bound staff promoting ACT work

The Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound staff spent the month prior to school winter break doing recruitment presentations at target schools, providing fee waivers to students taking the next ACT exam and meeting with students to check on grades and deliver their stipend checks.

The staff also completed annual performance reports to the U.S. Department of Education for four Trio programs. Two Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound alumni students also stopped by the office at Murray State College for a Christmas visit.

Clint Hartley and Bonnie Scott met while in Upward Bound about four years ago. They are now married and have a baby girl. The couple live in Thackerville, Okla., and work for Chickasaw Enterprises at the travel stop in Thackerville. Bonnie and Clint were students under Academic Advisor Becky Easterling.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the conservation agency for the USDA and works hand-in-hand with the American people to conserve natural resources on private and Tribal lands.

NRCS provides the following services:

- Natural resource assessments
- Technical assistance for conservation practices
- Conservation planning assistance
- Cost share programs for conservation work

Please contact your local USDA Service Center or Tribal Resource Conservationist at (580) 332-8167. The local NRCS office also works in cooperation with your local Conservation District. Visit Oklahoma's website at www.ok.nrcs.usda.gov for information on conservation programs and services available.

All programs and services of the Natural Resources Conservation Service are provided in a nondiscriminatory manner.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

What's In A Number? Part II of III of 'assessing your credit'

So, just what is included in that number they call a FICO score? FICO scores use a variety of data from your credit report to calculate a score. There are five categories, as shown below, that make up a FICO score.

WHAT IS IN YOUR SCORE

35% Payment History – Includes the following:

• Retail, installment, mortgage or finance companies.

• Late payments, collection or charge off accounts, any past due accounts

• Public Records – Bankruptcy, Foreclosure, tax liens, judgements, lawsuits or wage garnishments.

• Severity of delinquency – how many days past due 30/60/90/120

• Amount past due or amount due on collections or unpaid charge offs

• Time since past due, adverse public records, collections

• Number of past due accounts or collections/charge offs showing

• Number of accounts paid as agreed

This is the most important category that is calculated into the score. It looks at the most recent activity the closest and weighs it heavier than older credit. Old credit, that has not been active for over 24 months, has very little if any weight to the score.

30% Amounts Owed

• Balance owing on each account, how much

• Balance owing on specific types of accounts, like an auto loan

• Lack of a specific type of balance, in some cases

• How many accounts do you have and how many with balances

• How much is your full credit line and in relation to that, how much of it do you owe. Example – A $5,000 Visa with a $3,000 balance means you have used 60% of the line or 60% of the $5,000 line

• How much was an installment loan for, like a car loan, and how much is left unpaid on it

This one is tricky. The scoring system looks to see how much credit you use against the total amount available to you. In other words, if your maximum limit is $5,000 and your balance is $4,990.00 you only have $10 available. The score is lower for higher balances but, you need to use the credit to obtain a rating so it can't be zero. A typical rule of thumb is to keep 60-70% of the line on any revolving account open and available.

15% Length of Credit History

• How long since you have opened each account

• How long since accounts have opened, by type of account

• How long since each individual account was active or used

How long have you had credit? The longer the better if it is with the same issuer and is still open and active.

10% New Credit

• How many new or recently opened accounts

• How many new or recently opened accounts in relation to older accounts

• How many recent credit inquiries

• How long since each inquiry

• If bankruptcy or payment delinquencies in the past, how long ago and has a good payment history now been established and for how long has the pay history been good

The scoring system will use more points against you if you are a new credit user with a lot of inquiries. If you have established credit and have been shopping for a new credit account, it won't count as much against you, especially if you pay your bills on time on your existing accounts.

10% Types of Credit Used

• Number of (presence, prevalence, and recent information on) various types of accounts (credit cards, retail accounts, installment loans, mortgages, consumer finance accounts, etc.)

The best scenario here is to have a mix of both revolving and installment accounts. If you have also had a mortgage, that adds to the mix and is a good

*See **Credit Score,** page 26*

Directory established for tribal entrepreneurs

A directory of businesses owned by Chickasaws is being created to help promote economic opportunity for tribal entrepreneurs.

There is no cost to be listed in the directory, which will include the name of the business, contact and location information, as well as information on the goods or services provided by the business.

In addition to a printed directory, a web site will be created to enable electronic access to all information.

Chickasaws with a CDIB who would like to be listed in the directory should provide the information requested on the form below via email to vicky.gold@chickasaw.net or complete the form below and return to *The Chickasaw Times*, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821.

CHICKASAW NATION BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Date of submission:_____ Regional Chickasaw Council:_____

Company Name:_____

Parent Company name (if applicable):_____

Mailing Address:_____

City, State, Zip:_____

Street Address:_____

Phone Number:_____ Fax Number:_____

Email address:_____

Owner's Name:_____ Owner's Title:_____

Other contact person:_____

Brief description of product/services (be specific):_____

Ownership Information:

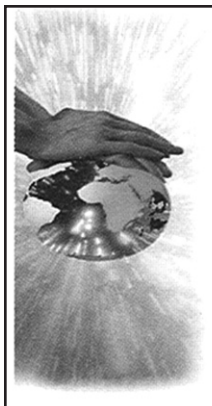
List all shareholders, officers directors or outside firms that hold an interest in the company. List the percentage of the business they own and list if they possess a CDIB and Tribal affiliation.:

Name/Title Percent Ownership CDIB Tribal Affiliation

_____

_____

_____



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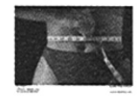

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Helpful tips on breastfeeding and working outside the home

Mothers who choose to go back to work after giving birth are still able to make the best feeding choices for their babies. Many mothers continue to breastfeed while working outside the home. To ensure that your baby continues to receive the best possible nourishment after you go back to work the following guidelines may help:

- Talk to your boss about pumping at work.
- Find someone who supports breastfeeding to provide child care for you while you are at work.
- Get your baby used to taking a bottle.
- Start pumping and storing breast milk. For younger babies, store milk in small amounts, 2-4 ounces. Mark each bottle/bag of milk with the date expressed and your baby's name. It helps to have plenty of milk stored in case you pump less than usual one day at work or your baby takes more each day than you expected.
- Start with a practice day. Pretend you are going back to work. Drop the baby off at the daycare or sitter and pump during the day at the times you will be pumping at work, pick baby up at the end of the day and breastfeed.

Tips for making it through the day:

- Breastfeed your baby when you drop him/her off at the sitter or daycare.
- Pump or hand-express your milk as often as you would feed your baby during the day (if you can).
- Breastfeed your baby when you pick him/her up.
- Breastfeed your baby often when you are together.
- If your milk supply goes down, pump more during the day if you can.
- Use an effective pump. Massage your breasts before pumping, pump for 5-7 minutes, then massage breasts again. Repeat until you no longer get any more milk when you pump.

The WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program was established to provide support and education to mothers who want to breastfeed. Peer Counselors are available in all WIC locations and surrounding areas in the following cities: Ada, Ardmore, Tishomingo, Sulphur, Pauls Valley, Duncan and Purcell. Debra Cox, a board certified Lactation Consultant, coordinates the program and offers specialized help to moms having difficulties establishing breastfeeding.

Our goal is to make breastfeeding the preferred method of infant feeding for all mothers as is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. For help and support in the area of breastfeeding call (580) 399-2002, (580) 310-6420, or the toll free breastfeeding warm line, (888) 439-8970.

Information was taken from 2005 Breastfeeding and Working. Hale Publishing.

Letter to Editor:

Chukma! It was a great surprise to open 2007 calendar and see photo of my great-great aunt Laura Johnson Turner and husband Mazzepa. This is a great feeling to have this tie with our Chickasaw heritage.

All of the magazines, etc. are beautifully done.

Thanks again!

Val (Jack) Egge

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The Hunter Who Was Not So Great-A Chickasaw Legend

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The Hunter Who Was Not So Great:

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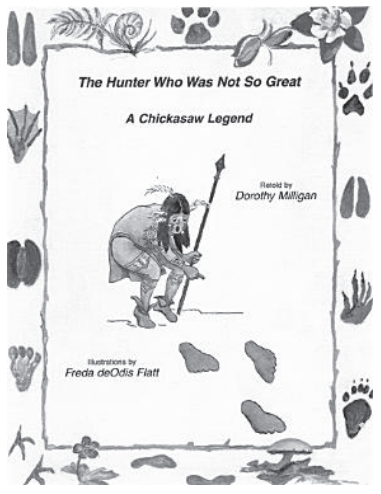
The Hunter Who Was Not So Great centers around a brave hunter who becomes a little too confident in his abilities and must learn the lesson of not bragging. This lesson is delivered by Ihoff, the giant who lives deep in the forest and possesses strange powers including a "secret weapon."



You can receive a FREE copy of this book with your $25 donation to the Chickasaw Foundation. Complete the order form below and mail, with your donation, to the Foundation at P.O. 1726, Ada, OK 74821-1726 or visit our office at 110 West 12th Street in Ada.

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Credit score, continued from page 24

indicator of risk. You get good points for having a mix of types of credit because it indicates you know how to handle your money.

Remember that your score looks at both positive and negative information and takes it all under consideration. Your score is only one factor in determining eligibility for a mortgage loan. Don't presume that your credit is not good if your score is low, ask a professional credit counselor for help reading and understanding your credit report and what each piece of information means.

WHAT IS NOT IN YOUR SCORE

A FICO score does not discriminate. It does not consider race, color, religion, national origin, sex or marital status. It does not factor in your age, your salary, occupation, title, employer, or how long you have been employed. Where you live does not enter into your score. Certain types of inquires have no bearing such as items reported as child/family support or rental obligations.

HOW DOES CREDIT SCORING HELP YOU?

One thing a score can affect is the documentation required for your mortgage loan application. Scores are predictive of risk. The higher the score, the lower the risk. For an applicant with a 750 FICO score, there will be far less documentation required because people associated with a score around that number are found to be very low risk, these borrower's rarely go into default on a mortgage loan. That means faster loans, quicker to closing.

Since FICO scores do not consider gender, race, religion, nationality and marital status, it is a much fairer system than it used to be.

Your credit score is a snapshot in time, literally. If you have had poor credit, then as time passes and you change your pay habits to begin paying on-time, your score increases. That means that you don't "pay forever" for past mistakes. Your score does not change immediately though, you have to have patience. Most creditors report to the repositories once every 30-60 days. If you make a payment on the 5th day of the month to Target, but they report on the 2nd day of each month, then your payment will not be reported for another 25 days or so. To affect your score, you have to make several on-time payments, consecutively.

The cost of credit actually decreases as automated underwriting and FICO scores make the whole process more efficient. Since lenders can more quickly analyze data, they can pass those savings on to their customers.

WHAT'S IN YOUR CREDIT REPORT

Your credit report includes your identifying information, your name, social security number, date of birth and employment information. This information is not used in scoring and is updated from information you supply to lenders or creditors.

Tradelines - Most creditors report your credit accounts to the repositories. They report the type of account, like Dillards (revolving) or GMAC (Auto Loan/Installment), the credit limit or loan amount, the current balance and your payment history, including if you have had late payments and any past due amounts.

Inquiries – When you apply for a loan and sign a loan application, you give the lender permission to pull and view your credit report. That is an inquiry. This section of your credit report includes anyone who has inquired about your credit, with your permission, in the past 24 months, as well as what is called "involuntary" inquiries, such as when lenders order your report to make you a "pre-approved" offer.

Public Records and Collection Items – The repositories collect data regarding public records and collection information from state and county courts and information on overdue accounts from collection agencies.

HOW MISTAKES ARE MADE

Yes, repositories make mistakes. So do the creditors who are reporting to the repositories. This can also easily happen within families with the same name, Robert and Robert, Jr., for example.

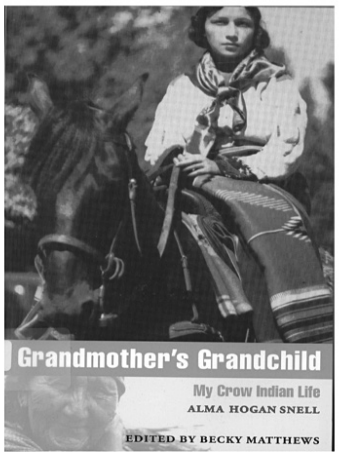
Mistakes can also happen when Robert applies as Bob or Bobby. Clerical errors happen every day, reading or entering a name, address or account numbers from a hand written application. If the information provided was not correct or a creditor or loan company applied a payment to the wrong account.

Mistakes can be cleared up and cleaned up, sometimes easily and sometimes not so easily. I will talk more about that in the final installment of this series of articles.

In Part III, I will talk more about FICO scores in relation to the mortgage process and how to fix credit report errors.

Check it out . . . at the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Library!

Featured Selections of the Month



Grandmother's Grandchild
My Crow Indian Life

Alma Hogan Snell and edited by Becky Matthews

Back Cover: "What drives this book is not so much dramatic external events but visions of an interconnected cosmos."

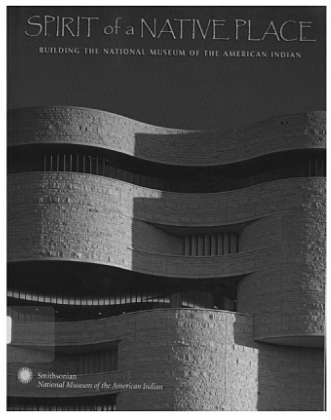
-Booklist.

Spirit of a Native Place
Building the National Museum of the American Indian

Smithsonian

Back Cover: "Is there better proof of America's outrageous ability to change (and not change) than this new place carved from indian rock and dedicated to the preposterous, wonderful, and breathtakingly ambisious task of telling the stories of native peoples?"

-Paul Chaat Smith (Comanche)


SPIRIT of a NATIVE PLACE
BUILDING THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN
Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

Chickasaw Nation Tribal Library
520 E. Arlington (Downstairs in the Miko Building, Chickasaw Nation Headquarters)
Ada OK 74820 (580) 436-2603, ext. 7301
Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SHOW OFF YOUR PRIDE AND JOY!

We want to feature your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, etc. in a special "Pride and Joy" section in our April issue of the *Chickasaw Times*. Please send a photo with you special child's name, age and guardian information. Include a note about why they are your "Pride and Joy!"

We need to receive these by **March 22, 2007**. Please send to: **The *Chickasaw Times*, c/o Pride and Joy, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821.**

PLEASE SEND A PHOTO!
(We will return if you provide us with a return address.)

Child's Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian (you can also include grandparents): _____

_____

City/State: _____

This child (children) is my pride and joy because:
(include sheet of paper, if necessary)

_____

_____

Roberta E. Billing

Roberta (Bobbie) E. Billing died peacefully at her home, Dec. 16, 2006 after a courageous two and one-half year battle with multiple myeloma. Graveside services were conducted Dec. 22, 2006 at Gales Ferry Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 13, 1930 at Oklahoma City to Thomas and Wacile Lawson.

She was a loving wife for 57 years to retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Clare (Bill) B. Billing. She was a devoted mother to her four sons and their families.

She was proud of her Native American heritage. Her grandfather William Hawkins, a full-blood Chickasaw, was an original enrollee.

After moving to Arizona as a child and growing up in Phoenix, she married Bill Billing of Bay, Ariz. They traveled across the United States raising their family during his deployments with the U.S. Navy Submarine Force in San Diego, Philadelphia, Groton/New London, Pittsburgh, Honolulu, Idaho Falls, Key West, and Falls Church, Virginia. Upon his retirement from the Navy in 1967 they settled in Gales Ferry.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, including her Balinese cat "Ming-Ming." She loved cooking, sewing, crocheting and listening to music. She enjoyed reading, traveling and watching and cheering for the Boston Red Sox and Greno's Lady Huskies.

She is preceded in death by her parents; and sisters, Belva Haught and Gloria Lawson.

She is survived by her husband, Lt. Cmdr. Clare (Bill) B. Billing (retired), Gales Ferry, Conn.; four sons, Clare (Bill) B. Jr., and Natalie Billing, of Mystic, Conn., Carl and Dona Billing, of Londonderry, N.H., Paul and Sue Billing, and David and Elaine Billing, all of Gales Ferry; nine grandchildren, David Jr., Bethany and Melissa Billing, of Gales Ferry, Carl Jr., Cara and Christi Billing, of Londonderry, Katherine Billing, of Gales Ferry, Jeffrey Billing, of Mystic and Michael Billing; sisters, Charlotte Chamberlain, of Humboldt, Ariz., and Lois Tesky, of Mayer, Ariz.; brothers, Bill Jones and Jack Wilson.

All of her family and friends benefited from her kindness, compassion, care and love. While her voice in now silent, her spirit, love purpose and message live on those she loved as well as their love for her. Her legacy is her family and the love she brought to them and their lives. That legacy will live on through them and those they touch today and in the future.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Hospice of Southeastern Connecticut, 179 Gallivan, Lane, PO Box 902, Uncasville, CT 06382-0902.

Al Yates

Al Yates died Tuesday October 31, 2006 in the Mizpah Hotel Fire in Reno, Nevada.

Mr. Yates was the son of Charles Edward Yates and Helen Urtiaga born June 6, 1960 in Albuquerque, N.M.

He attended Valley High School in Albuquerque and served as a Ranger in the U.S. Army and the active duty New Mexico Army National Guard. Duty stations included Ft. Benning and Ft. Gordon, Georgia, Fort Carson, Colo., and Ft. Bliss, Texas.

He also served overseas tours on the DMZ, Korea and at Garlstedte, Germany. He received two Army Achievement Awards, Expert Marksmanship Award and a Good Conduct Medal. During his tour with the National Guard he ran marathons and was rated in the top five percent in the nation for military physical fitness.

Mr. Yates later lived in Oregon, Washington and Alaska working in the commercial fishing industry. He at one time fished in the highly respected and dangerous King Crab fishery off the Bering Sea. At the time of his death, he was working as a warehouseman for Airgas in Nevada. In his spare time, he enjoyed hiking, camping and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and grandmother, Nora Davis Yates, an original enrollee of the Chickasaw Nation.

He is survived by his wife, Jessica Lorenzano, of Reno; son, Daniel Bradley Yates, of Hammond, Oregon; and half sister, Dina Gonzales, of Albuquerque.

A memorial service was conducted in November in Reno for all 12 innocent victims of the Mizpah Hotel Fire. He is to be interred in the New Mexico National Cemetery in Santa Fe, in the early spring.

Sophia Frye Reeder Perry

Mrs. Perry died Friday, January 19, 2007 at a Del Rio, Texas hospital. She was born December 13, 1912 at St. Louis, Missouri to Charles Arthur and Sophia Frye Reeder (an original enrollee). She and her family moved from St. Louis back to Ardmore in 1922. In Ardmore, Sophia graduated from the Bloomfield School for Girls, then from Murray State College in Tishomingo.

Sophia married Johnson Robert Perry (a full blood newborn enrollee) on July 23, 1935 in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. They raised their family at Ada and after retirement moved to the family allotment near Stonewall. Johnson Perry died February 8, 1984. Mrs. Perry was a homemaker until her boys were grown, and then was employed by the Pontotoc County Health Department and the Oklahoma Department of Vocational Rehabilitation until retirement.

When time was hers, Sophia enjoyed travel with the Chickasaw Senior Citizens. She drove her car, lived independently, fed her wild birds, raised flowers and remained very active. Mrs. Perry was a member of Boiling Springs United Methodist Church, east of Lula. Sophia taught Sunday School at Trinity Baptist Church. Also, she and her husband helped establish the Ada Indian Baptist Church many years ago.

She was active in Chickasaw circles, a Carl Albert hospital volunteer, a member of the Chickasaw Cats and the Healthy Heart Club at Valley View Regional Hospital. She was most proud of a citation from the State of Oklahoma for her work as a distinguished volunteer for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. In 2005, for her entries Sophia received the Governor's Award for the Chickasaw Senior's Art Show. More recently, she placed second in the Southeastern Indian Art Show, for her traditional dresses competing in the textiles division.

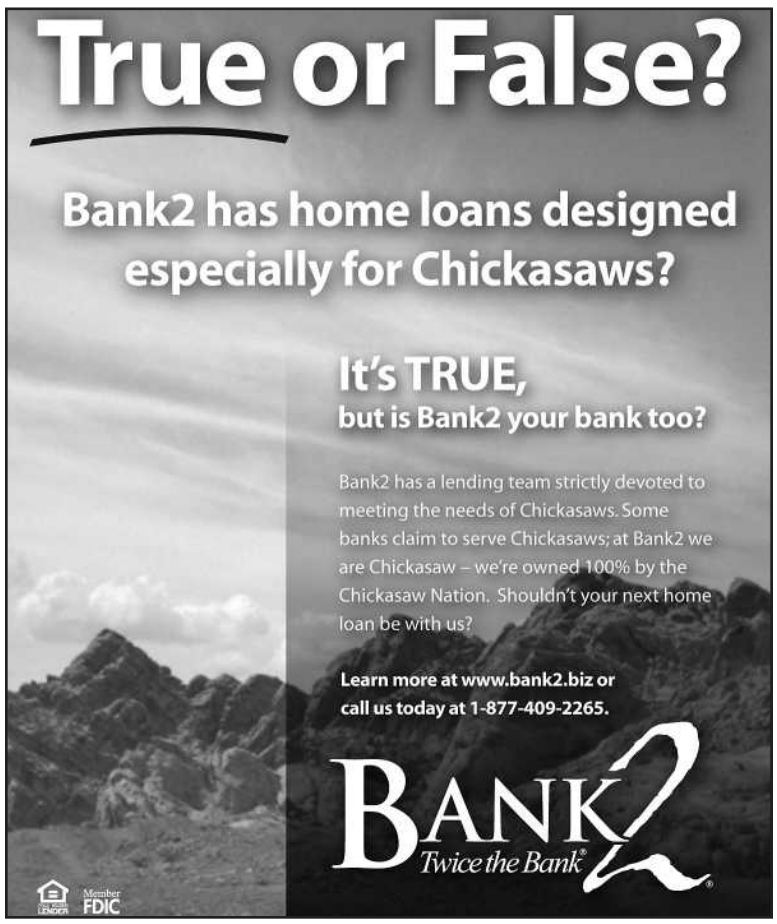
She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Stelle Reeder; and a brother, Charles Arthur Reeder, Jr., a veteran of WWII. Survivors include four sons, Robert Johnson Perry and wife Faye, Ada; Charles Scott Perry and wife Kay, Ada; Norman Francis Perry and wife Sallie, Broken Arrow; and Kirkland Carter Perry and wife Kay, Ada; a sister, Julia Harlin, Corona, CA; nine grandchildren; and eight great grandchildren.

Note of Thanks

Our family would like to thank the following people for your cards and flowers due to the loss of our mother who we will truly miss. Governer Annotubby, Lt. Governor Keel, Chickasaw Senior Citizens, Carl Albert Indian Hospital Staff and Volunteers, Chickasaw Legislators Mary Jo Green, NewCastle Gaming Employees, Red River Home Health Care Indian Territory, Chickasaw Enterprises-The boys out back, and all of our friends and family

And a very special thanks to our Uncle Tom Cooper, who without your love and support we could not have made it thru this difficult time. You are always there when we need you and we want to thank you. And tell you that we love you!

Betty Dodd Family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"A Chickasaw Tribal Member"

Edna Mae Hayward Goodin

Edna Mae Hayward Goodin, 102, died Dec. 23, 2006. For the past four months she had been living with her son Norman and his wife, Cheryl at Lebanon, Okla. She died at their home following a short illness.

Services were Dec. 26, 2006 at United Methodist Church, Colbert, Okla., with Jacob Toews, Calera, Okla., and Micah Welcher, Colbert, officiating. Interment followed in Hillcrest Cemetery, Ardmore, Okla.

She was born Dec. 2, 1904, Indian Territory, now Pittsburg County, Oklahoma, to James and Mona (Godfrey) Hayward. She was an original enrollee. Her parents took her to the Chickasaw Capital in Tishomingo, Okla., when she was a small child to register her.

Her great-grandmother, Mourning Star Gooding, traveled the "Trail of Tears" in the 1800s. She has benefited from her Indian heritage with allotted land, schooling, health care and schooling for her great-grandchildren. Tribe heritage is from her mother's side of family.

She attended the 2006 Chickasaw Annual Meeting at Tishomingo with her son, Norman, and grandson, Miles, where she was recognized as one of the oldest original enrollees. She enjoyed the day with them and was very proud of her Indian heritage.

She celebrated her 102nd birthday Dec. 2, 2006 with family and friends. She received beautiful flowers from the Tribal Legislature and Gov. Bill Anoatubby. She was very sharp of mind and enjoyed the day of visiting.

She and her sisters attended Bloomfield Seminary in Ardmore. She began her education there in 1916. At Bloomfield they received their formal education. At that time it was like a finishing school for the girls. They learned how to work, behave and become a real lady. This school went to the eighth grade.

In the summer they would spend time at home, then travel back to school in the fall from Wilson, Okla. She had lots of stories about all the things they learned, Shakespearean theater, plays, music, dance and were taught every day living.

When they went shopping in Ardmore they traveled by streetcar. They would have holidays and picnics at Whittington Park. There are lots of cherished friends and memories from those years at Bloomfield.

During World War I, when the flu epidemic took so many lives, the school asked her mother to come and help nurse the girls back to health. After that, whenever needed, she packed her medical bag and helped out. All the girls survived that difficult time.

After graduation she went back to Wilson High School, but did not graduate.

She met and married C.A. (Buddy) Goodin in 1927 at Duncan, Okla. They married in the library there. They were married 64 years before his death in October 1991. They were living at Cartwright, Okla., at the time moving from Wilson. He was employed by Exxon for 37 years.

They had one son, Norman, born July 12, 1933 at Wilson.

Mrs. Goodin and her husband loved to fish and took family and friends on their barge or boat. She was a homemaker and loved to do handwork, sew, garden and care for her family. She like to raise chickens and Mr. Goodin bees. They both belonged to the Colbert Methodist Church were they served when needed. She joined the Eastern Star when she was 18 years at Wilson. Later when living at Wilson she was Mother Advisor for the Rainbow Girls. Mr. Goodin enjoyed the Masons before they married.

She continued to knit until the week of her death. She knitted afghans and throws for any kind of need and in later years for grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Although she couldn't see, she could feel and count and enjoyed being able to knit at age of 102.

She previously lived at the alternative living facility, Sterling House, Durant, Okla., for the past seven and one-half years. She chose to live there because of her sight and wanted a secure surrounding.

On her 100th birthday she enjoyed a great celebration at her residence and then a luncheon the next day for family and friends. Many came to help her celebrate including Gov. Anoatubby, Lt. Gov. Keel, and her Pickens District Legislator, Linda Briggs.

She has been a gracious lady and friends and family will miss her kind spirit and loving care.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; three sisters, Mildred Jorg, LouRena Vance, and Olline McDonald.

She is survived by a sister, Lahoma Rice, Kerrville, Texas; a son, Norman Gene and wife, Cheryl Proterfield; grandchildren, Sheri Jean Ortega and husband, Joe, Houston, Marshall Lane, Lebanon, Miles Porterfield, Calera; and great-grandchildren, Nikki Lane Gooding, Sterling and husband, David, Moore, Okla., Cody Lane Gooding, San Diego, Calif., and Danielle and Andrea Ortega, Houston.

Bearers were Marshall Lane Gooding, Miles Porterfield Gooding, Cody Lane Gooding, Joe Ortega, David Sterling and Nathanael Toews.

Mrs. Goodin enjoyed being with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They would quiz her about her long life and all the things she had seen and done. Lots of changes in 102 years, from horse and buggy to modern transportation. A life enjoyed by helping others.

Thomas Clark Cheadle

Thomas Clark Cheadle, 57, died Dec. 24, 2006 in Vancouver, Wash.

He was born Jan. 13, 1949 at Des Moines, Iowa.

Mr. Cheadle lived in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Texas and Washington. He was a high school quarterback, college All-American soccer goalie, middle-aged golfer and a fan of life.

He graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Platteville and worked as a computer software salesman.

His family and friends knew him as strong, determined, humorous, kind, honorable, loving and generous. He was proud to be a Lion serving the community and volunteered with Oregon Donor Program, where he served on the board of directors, including as chairman. He was a ardent advocate for organ donation since receiving a kidney transplant in 1992.

He is survived by his loving wife, Vivian; companion dog, Logan; father and stepmother, Overton "Buck" and Helen Cheadle, Ada, Okla.; a brother, Robert and wife Darlene Cheadle, Ada; two sisters Maryalice and husband Doug Gaskell, Chantilly, Va., and Liz Nelson, Willmar, Minn.; in-law parents, Dr. Norman and Helga Zheutlin, Los Angeles, and Arlie and Jeanne Thorn, Bend, Ore.; cousins; nieces; nephews; in-laws and step-family members; and many friends who loved and admired him.

A Celebration of life was hosted at Vancouver Funeral Chapel, Jan. 6, 2007.

Please make contributions to Oregon Donor Program, P.O. Box, 532, Portland, OR 97207-0532.

Betty Ann Nelson Dodd

Services for Betty Ann Nelson Dodd, 74, Ada, Okla., were Dec. 2 at High Hill Baptist Church, Ada with Trevor Bush and the Rev. Cecil Hawkins officiating. Burial followed in High Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Dodd died Nov. 28, 2006, at her home. She was born April 27, 1932, at Ahloso, to William and Ruby Milligan Nelson

She attended Carter Seminary at Ardmore and Ada High School. She also attended South Oklahoma City Junior College, East Central (OK) University and Oklahoma City Vo-Tech. She worked at Western Electric, South Community Hospital, Westinghouse Corporation, *The Daily Oklahoman*, and as a secretary for the Chickasaw Nation Senior Citizens site at Ada.

Mrs. Dodd was a member of Oklahoma Artist and Craftsman Guild, board member of Oklahoma Indian Legal Service, and also a member of High Hill Baptist Church.

She married William W. Dodd Dec. 6, 1966, at Durant. He died Oct. 29, 1982, at Oklahoma City.

She was preceded in death by her father, William Nelson, Sept. 11, 1979; a sister, Bertie "Cooper" Williams, July 26, 1995; and her grandmother, Caroline Milligan, Dec. 9, 1998.

She is survived by her mother, Ruby McKinney, Ada; five sons, Freddie Cooper, Tulsa, Jerry May, Clark May, both of Ada, Greg Milligan and Leslie Milligan, both of California; two daughters, Betsy May Roebuck, Oklahoma City, and Charlotte Carpenter, Ada; four sisters, Martha Jane Hill, Dibble, Okla., Virginia Paulk, Joy Easley and Patsy Perry, all of Ada; four brothers, Tommy Cooper, Ada, Dale Cooper, Norman, Okla., James McKinney, Miss., and Sammy McKinney, Cottonwood, Okla.; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives.

Bearers are Chris Clark, Gene Clark, Ricky Sherrin, Neil Burris, Hoyt Burris and Wayne Smith.

Honorary bearers are Mark Milligan, David Milligan, John Milligan, Richard Clark and J. C. Hawkins.